

PASQUIN and MARFORIO

Pasquino
ON THE
P E A C E:
B E I N G

A *Discussion*, by these celebrated STATUES at *Rome*, of the general *Conduct* of *England*, but particularly pending the late War, and in negotiating the present *Peace*.

Translated from *Italian*, and inscribed to the Earl of C----F----D, by the Translator, who, in his Dedication, examines the M----l Vindication of the Peace, just published, under the Title of *Considerations on the Definitive Treaty*, &c.

*Inscia gens se nunc, speculum en, scrutetur, imago
Vera nimis prodet, obsequiosa parùm.*



L O N D O N:

Printed for W. WEBB, near St. Paul's.

PASQUIN and MARLORIO

ON THE

P E A C E

BEING

A Dialogue by the celebrated Characters of the
of the general Council of England, and presenting
presenting the late War, and illustrating the
late Peace.

Translated from Italian, and inserted in the List of
C... by the Translator, who in his Dedication
tion, explains the Moral and Political of the Poem,
just published, under the Title of Considerations on
the Defensive Treaty, &c.



L O N D O N

Printed for W. Wood, near St. Paul's.

TO THE
E— of C—F—D.

MY LORD,

I AM mistaken, or the celebrated Personages, who here seek your Lordship's Protection, have a better Title to your Patronage than some that have affix'd your Name to Works, which you could not approve of without derogating from the generous Plan you laid down for the Standard of your own Conduct. Your Lordship's Study has been directed to the Amendment of your Countrymen and Happiness of your Country. A glorious Design! which these Foreigners seem to have no less in View than your Lordship. Nor is it unlikely but they may have taken your Lordship for their Model, in writing to a People sunk in *Luxury* and *Corruption*; for we find them varying their Stile with the Subject; and attempting, in Imitation of your Lordship, to sting and tickle in the same Breath. How they have succeeded, I must submit to your Lordship, with this single Apology in their Favour, that they wear a Dress which is not of their own fashioning, and for which their *English* Taylor only is answerable.

I have a second Apology to make to your Lordship, of a pretty singular Nature, and not for my Authors but my Bookseller, who was not to be persuaded to fill up a Chasm, which your Lordship will find in Page 16, with a Latin Ode characterizing two Persons, as indifferent as unknown to either him or I. But, whether the Man was frighted at a late Example in *W—r H—ll*, and was afraid of wearing the F—l's C—p, or imagined that all was T—n which he did not understand, he was as stiff in his Refusal, as *Pasquin* says we *English* are in Error. But here, and indeed in all that is charged on the Nation throughout the four Dialogues, your Lordship is always excepted; and herein no less appears the Justice than Discernment of my old *Romans*. Could they have found other Characters, among us, as unblemish'd and amiable as your Lordship's, we are to suppose that you would not have stood alone in their Works. But tho' they could find you no Equal, it was no less politic than just to produce you for a Pattern of Imitation. Happy,

py, that we have one *Lot* in our *Sodom* to avert the Wrath of Heaven! Happy, that we have one noble Patriot, whose *Eloquence* can persuade to a *Scrutiny* of our past Conduct, and whose *Practice* shou'd induce us to alter it!

Thus far I journey'd, intending here to take Leave of your Lordship, when my wary Bookseller sent me the * M——l *Defence* of the Peace, wishing I would examine if it clash'd with *Pasquin* and *Marforio* in their Discussion of the Definitive Treaty. To this End I bestowed a serious Reading on this specious Performance, and find it, as all the Productions from the same Quarter, eluding the principal Points of the Argument, and enforcing those that are foreign to it, constantly begging the Question, and taking for granted what is generally denied, affecting a Tenderness for the Community, to be found in the M——l Lucubrations only, and bespeaking the public Approbation of the Treaty in much such a specious and smooth Expression as *Shakespear* puts into *Mark Anthony's* Mouth to win the Mob of *Rome* to his insidious Purposes.

This Writer sets out with wondering, *that in a Land of Liberty, such as ours, so many shou'd incline to believe the Government to be always in the Wrong.* If I mistake not, the Animadversions of my chizzel'd Authors, on our public Conduct, prove the Rectitude of the Imputation; but sure I am that the Harangues, still fresh in our Memories, of some of the present Gentlemen in Power, before they tasted the Sweets of Employments, *might incline many to believe the G——t seldom in the Right.* But however wrong or right public Conduct may have been for the Time past, I cannot agree with this Writer, that the *Definitive Treaty* is any Exception to the general Charge, which he says so many are inclined to bring against the G——t, *of being always in the Wrong.*

This Advocate for the *Treaty*, plumes himself exceedingly on the *Fitness of the Time when our wise M——rs listened to the pacific Overtures of the Enemy.* But why was not the Year before as fit a Season, when your Lordship urged the Acceptance of the Proposals of *France*, which grants no more now than was offer'd then? *Pasquin* accounts for this Conduct very naturally, when he says that the Peace is the Offspring of *Fear*, engendered between a Dutch *Sutterkin* and E——sh *Beetle.* But with this Writer's Leave, that Part of the M——l Measure which he most applauds is, in the Opinion of most Men, that which is most
liable

* *Considerations on the Definitive Treaty, &c. by J. Roberts.*

liable to Objection; because, as we had not embraced the Overtures of *France*, while she was in Condition to carry on the War, we ought to have stood out when Famine, Bankruptcy, a total Depression of Commerce, and every other Evil, stared her full in the Face, or rather had overtaken her.

But what will not a Writer endeavour palming on his Readers, who asserts that the *House of Bourbon* comes out of the War with no Addition of Power, whereas that of the *House of Austria* was never so great, and so conspicuous. One must entertain a very mean Opinion of his Readers, or must himself be weaker than he supposes them to be, who cou'd hope to persuade them, that one Man is not the more powerful for being richer, nor another the less potent for being poorer. We find however our Author inclining to Compunction, at least to Modesty, where he owns in the same Breath, that the Countries restored to the Empress Queen have been very much harassed, and some of the Fortresses in them much injured, if not demolished. Yet for all this, the Loss of *Silesia*, the richest of the *Austrian* Provinces, and the Cession of *Parma, Placentia, Guastalla*, and best Part of the *Milanese*, the Power of the *House of Austria* was never so great and conspicuous.

If this Advocate for our *Negotiators* may be credited; the Balance of Power in general, is no less firmly established by the Treaty, than the Power of the *House of Austria* is greater and more conspicuous than ever. But it happens unluckily that his Proofs for the former, are as vague and inconclusive as those he offers in Favour of the latter. If the Empress Queen be less powerful than before the War, and the *House of Bourbon* more powerful by new Acquisitions; if Powers in the Empire, Allies of *France* by Interest, have sprung up lately to be formidable at the Expence of the *House of Austria*, I cannot conceive how the Balance of Power comes to be as firmly established as is pretended it is by this Defence of the Peace.

But that we may be sure our *Peace-makers* were not less mindful of *Home* than of *Austria* and *H—r*, we are told, that the immediate Concerns of *Englishmen* are taken as much Care of in the Treaty as could be reasonably expected or desired. I have known such various Uses made of the Word *reasonable* by Advocates for Power, that I am not sure but I should mistake this Author's Meaning, if I should go about putting the natural Construction on this Part of his Defence. For Instance, should I say, that *Englishmen* might have reasonably expected Security for

for their Navigation in *America*, and Compensation for *Depredations* committed upon them before the War, I might be silenced by being told, that as there is a new Negotiation on Foot with *Spain*, 'tis *reasonable* to expect we shall fare better at *Madrid* than at *Aix*.

Another of our *Concerns*, which is the *Demolition* of the *Port* of *Dunkirk*, is, according to this Writer, settled quite to our *Satisfaction*. Your Lordship will readily perceive, by the XVIIth Article of the Treaty, that the *Satisfaction* here intended is solely *ministerial*.

But the *Guaranty* of the *Succession* of the *Crown* is confirmed in the clearest Terms; as much as to say, that the Peace is excellent which secures us so firm a *Guaranty*, tho' every other *national Concern* had been omitted in the Treaty. If *Conveniency* be the first Article in the regal Creed, we may be sure that this general *Guaranty* will be observed just as long and as well as the last was.

In Answer to a general Complaint, that the Advice of P—t had not been required either before or after the *Preliminaries* were sign'd, we are told, that the *Sense* of *Parliament* might be very well known, and very safely collected by the Ministers, from what passed in *Parliament*. I readily own, that Moderns may have made considerable *Improvements* in ministerial Knowledge, and found new *Lights* and *Paths* to the Understanding of P—t M—n; but in the Case before us, I don't remember any Thing that pass'd in P—t last Session, leading to the *ministerial* Knowledge here asserted, except that the M—rs themselves, in their Harangues, were known to urge the Necessity of ending the War. This is somewhat similar to the M—rs echoing back, in an A—s, their own Sense of a S—h of their own making.

There is no Part of this Defence so shining, because the truest, as the Portraiture of the Inabilities of the House of *Bourbon* before the Peace, and her arduous Care since, to restore her Trade and redress the heavy Grievances of her Subjects. But, was not the owning this *Truth* a tacit Avowal of the Charge brought against the M—y for precipitating the Peace.

The Ignominy of stooping to a vain, arrogant Neighbour, in the Article of *Hostages*, is slur'd over by this passive Scribe, in the same calm Manner in which he answers all other important Objections to the Treaty. *Hostages*, he says, were *necessary* and *usual*. If our *bonne foi* had not been doubted, by a People who judged of us by themselves, Pledges had not been required.

And

And herein the foul Stain of *Double-dealing* is endeavoured to be fixed upon us. *Hostages* indeed were *usual*; but it was always from such as were *inferior* in Rank and Power; which I hope this *Defender* does not think to be the Case of *Britain* at present. *Pasquin* has cut this Dispute short, by wishing, as all *Englishmen* ought, that the *Hostages* had been *H—ns*.

The Apologist takes leave of the courteous Reader, by assuring, that all an *Englishman* can wish for, or wants, may be attained, if the People be but content to encourage Men to *mean well*, by putting a *right Construction on their Meaning*. By this we may see how easily the *Definitive Treaty*, by a little Court-Legerdemain, may be juggled into a Restorative, or any good Thing one can imagine. 'Tis but encouraging and supposing our M—rs to *mean well*, and they are safe, and the Nation is happy.

But leaving the further Correction of this *Defender* to *Pasquin* and *Marforio*, who have pre-exposed all his Sophistry, I beg Leave to congratulate your Lordship on your *Resignation*, before the Negotiation for a Peace was set on foot. We all wished you in the M—y, before we saw how ill you were used there; and as ardently wished you back again, for fear you should be *smutted* by the M——l Coalmen. I have the Honour to be,

My LORD,

Your LORDSHIP's

most humble and most obedient Servant,

The TRANSLATOR.

PASQUIN

PASQUIN and MARFORIO

ON THE

P E A C E, &c.

DIALOGUE I.

Pasquin and Marforio.

Pasq. FROM thy Air of Importance, old Chum, you should be big with some dark, consistorial Secret.—Shall

I call up *Lucina* to deliver thee ; or acquaint the Cardinal *Inquisitor*, that thou art in a Plot against the Holy-office ?

Marf. 'Tis a Wonder how so meddling and frank a Speaker as thou art cou'd have escap'd, for so many Ages, the Justice of that necessary Judicature.—

Pasq. Necessary Judicature ! What, because, forsooth, 'tis necessary that the Laity shou'd be spur'd and whip'd in the narrow Way that leads to Bliss ? Ah, *Marfi* ! Talk not thou, who have so long experienced the Equity of Churchmen, of the Justice of the Holy-Office—I cou'd love *Rome* but for that Judicature.

Marf. Is *Rome* the only Place where there is an Inquisition ? Is there a Land in *Europe*, I may say, in the World, where Churchmen bear not the chief Sway ?

Pasq. What, *Marforio* ! Among the free Sons of the Reformation ?

Marf. Yes ; and of those, the very freest of them, are the greatest Slaves to their Churchmen.

Pasq.

Pasq. Dear *Marfi*! Truce with Contradiction—The *freest* of the *Free* are the greatest Slaves—ha, ha! Prithee, old Stubborn, deal not thus *freely* in the Profund.

Marf. Like a pert Critic, that determines and exults before he has examined, you plume yourself on the having caught me tripping; but thou shalt be thy own Confounder, as oft' thy pestulant Brethren are—Of all Governments the Democratic is the freest; and of all the Democracies in *Europe* that of *Geneva* breaths Freedom most; yet—

Pasq. The Laity there are but Hewers of Wood and Drawers of Water to their lordly Pastors—I understand thee, *Marforio*; and take Shame to myself for my Petulancy—You forgive me—

Marf. To relapse the first Time, any Thing 'scapes the Ken of thy shallow Comprehension—But come, as this is the first Time I have known thee lapsing into Modesty or Remorse, I pardon thee; on Condition, however, that you own the Sons of the Reformation to be as *Priest-ridden* as those of the old Establishment.

Pasq. As much as to say, that every Country has its Inquisition.

Marf. Undoubtedly—Does not the annual Payment of Tythes and parochial Dues prove it beyond a Contradiction, not to mention a thousand Instances besides, of the Subjection of the Laity and Despoticism of the Clergy as well among the Reformed as Catholics. Ask a hardy *Scot* if every Parish in his Country be not ridden by its Pope, and he will answer in the Affirmative, perhaps with this aggravating Reflection, that it wou'd be some Alleviation of his Thralldom if his spiritual Tyrant had been arm'd with the awful Buckler of Infallibility.

Pasq. A rare two-edg'd Sword, that hews all before it.

Marf. The only Weapon that can colour any Power or Preheminence arrogated by *Churchmen*. What a Contradiction wou'd it be for me, that am no more gifted than thee; that pretend to no supernatural Gift, to no Power delegated by the highest Dispenser of all Power; that own you have an equal Right with myself to judge and determine on Points of Doctrine; for me, I say, that am no better, no more enlighten'd than thyself to pretend to direct or controul your Conscience—

Pasq. Wou'd be as absurd and impertinent as for a blind Man to read me a Lecture on Colours.

Marf. Yet absurd as it may seem, ungifted as they are, without forming any Pretensions to Infallibility either, you see how they curb and bestride the Flock. If crafty Men expect to rise by exciting *Rebellion* against a lawful Prince, 'tis but luring the Clergy on their Side, and presently Rebellion ceases to be any more than a necessary *Opposition* which the subjects are taught to join in under Pain of Damnation——

Pasq. But if on the other Hand, it shou'd be necessary to preach back the People to their Duty to the Prince so rebell'd against; if Opportunity offer'd for righting Mistakes and doing Justice, wou'd not these Bellows-blowers in black, think you, Thump the cushion in Favour of the Injured?

Marf. Not unless they cou'd be sure to find their private Accounts in the Change of their Language. You might have observed a recent Instance in a distant *Western* Region, of the *Restitutive* Spirit of Churchmen, and the *Influence* of their sabbatical Vociferations.

Pasq. If I don't forget, the *Pens* of Churchmen, on that extraordinary Occasion, were no less employ'd than their Lungs.

Marf. And more useful than the Sword——

Pasq. I can tell you what was then of more Efficacy than either, *Gold*, which wrested Secrets from the *Secretary*, misted *Generals* in their Way to sure Victory by Night, and rais'd the Spirit of *Opposition* in *Councils of War*—*Gold*, my dear *Marfi*, all powerful *Gold* which charms the brave Lion of *Liberty* into Shackles and Chains; which so covers the Drum of the Ears of *Senators* that they are deaf to the sweet Voice of Truth, and which so stiffens their Hearts as to be unable to bend to the Allurements of real Patriotism——Ah! powerful, shining Earth, that rulest this Ball we stand on, that forcest Scepters out of righteous Hands, and——

Marf. Swords out of the Hands of successful Generals.——

Quid valet externi Strepitus, tormenta, furorque?

Nil; nisi Consilium temperet Arma Domi.

Pasq. As much as to say, that the *Blunders* of the Cabinet of *Versailles* have render'd the Victories of *Saxe* and *Lowendhal* of little Use to *France*.

Marf. Not so much the *Blunders* as the *Envy* and *Corruption* of the reigning Juncto in the *French* Ministry. The Objects of the first are the two foreign Generals you named——

Pasq.

Pasq. And of the latter, Gold, *English* Gold, which saved the *Cheesemongers* from feeding on *French* Sillabubs—Gad, old Stiff! This same Peace which is come to us piping-hot from the political Oven of *Aix*, seems to be a strange Hotch-potch; an *Olio*, an incomprehensible Medley built not so much on the Basis of Equity and Reason as on Whim, Caprice, Ignorance, and Partiality.

Marf. You might have added Necessity.

Pasq. What Necessity cou'd the Victors be driven to?

Marf. You confine the Word Necessity to *France* singly, when it is applicable more to the other Powers at War.

Pasq. Nay, name not Powers; for I know but one in each Confederacy that cou'd command Peace, or bid the War to glow; *France* on one Side, and *England* on the other. To their Fiddles the Allies on both Sides were obliged to dance. Therefore, my little *Marfi*, if thou would'st urge Necessity, let it be applicable to *France* or *England* only.

Marf. I agree with thee, *Pasquin*; the Preliminaries to the Peace we are examining, prove the Rectitude of your Conclusion. All the Powers concern'd, except *France* on one Side, and *England* on the other, knew nothing of them when first sign'd, and were dragg'd to agree to them afterwards—

Pasq. As they are into the Peace——

Marf. Necessity hath no Law——

Pasq. You are right as to the Confederates on both Sides who were obliged to subscribe; but the Principals *France* and *England*, the first commanding the Land, the other the Ocean, how cou'd such conquering Powers be pressed by Necessity?

Marf. Thus; tho' *England* had no Equal at Sea, she may be said to have been inferior to all on Land, even to those Powers that could scarce move without her.

Pasq. Blunder, *Marfi*, the deep Mire of Blunder, in which the Unrighteous and Ungifted flounder incessantly! The *English* had first wantonly flounder'd into the War and conducted it afterwards without Caution or Foresight.

Marf. The *English*! *Pasquin*, I thought you had known better than to criminate that brave, wise, just People for Errors imputable only to their Ministry——

Pasq. To their own Gold, you might better say. Gold, old Boy, is the Idol the *English* bow to. After they had driven

ven their *Moses* from his Office, they made unto them a *Golden Calf*, to which they have paid constant Adoration ever since—*Brave, wise, and just!* High Epithets, *Marfi*; but, prithee, in what Sense applicable to the *English*?

Marf. There is no refusing the *English* Courage; they will fight——

Pasq. So will their Dogs and Cocks, without Meaning or Design——They will fight; so will other Nations: And they can run away too as well as fight, as *Saxe* can testify.——Tell me not that a People will fight, and thence bestow the Epithet *Brave* on them. As well may the Highwayman who assaults resolutely to gain a Purse, be deem'd *Brave* as a Nation that fight in an *unrighteous Cause*. Ever since the Erection of the *Golden Idol* mention'd before, the Plan on which the *E——h* fought has been defective. There was a Time, *Marforia*, when our Ancestors, here within this once awful Seat of Empire, were *Brave* in the fullest Extent of the Word. They fought *bravely* Abroad for Conquest, and at Home for *Freedom*.

Marf. The ancient *Romans* were truly *Brave*——

Pasq. So were the ancient *Britons*. But, ye Gods, how alter'd and degenerated! Do they not too nearly resemble those *Romans* that had out-lived the Constitution of their Country and bow'd to the *Ministerial* Yoke in the Days of the *Cæsars*?

Marf. Servile Wretches——

Pasq. Famish'd Slaves! Hungry for the *Gold* which themselves had given.

Marf. How, *Pasquin*?

Pasq. As absurd as it may seem, the Charge is nevertheless founded on the firm Basis of unerring Truth. What have Princes or their Delegates (Ministers) but what they receive of the People? Even that Power which is often turn'd against the Herd is derived from themselves: Nor is it less certain that the *Means* of Corruption comes mediately from the *Corrupted*. Had the People of all Countries reach'd out a sparing Hand to Courts, *Corruption* wou'd have been a Stranger here on Earth as well as *Despoticism*, but for Want of that *Parcimony*, which even Nature seems to dictate, behold what Waste *Corruption* has committed on this Tennis-ball of ours? Various are the Origins assign'd to *Tyranny* by Sceptics; but I say, that

that *Gold* is its Parent. And I prove it thus : Take Notice, that by *Gold* I suggest every Means of Corruption, whether by private or public Pensions or Employments, or by Titles and Honour undeservedly conferr'd.

Marf. To your Proof. A Syllogism from a Rattle will be a Curiosity—Ha, ha!

Pasq. As hollow as you may deem this Pericranium of mine, Mr. *Simperer*, my Hands are clean, and my Heart is honest.

Marf. So are mine, Mr. *Pert*, and what then?

Pasq. That for the want of their being so the reverend Senate that once graced this Capital and governed the World, became *Slaves* themselves, and transmitted *Slavery* to their wretched Descendants.

Marf. Cursed Avarice and Ambition! See what Havock they make even now in the *Western Hemisphere*.

Pasq. Rather impute the big Ruin to *Luxury* more than even to *Avarice*. The latter is insatiable, and for that Reason oft' proves too craving and stubborn to be bent by the Wiles or Power of the Ambitious. But *Luxury*, liable to be fed a thousand Ways, yields as soon as address'd, having before-hand cashier'd *Patriotism*, the only Guard that cou'd secure her.

Marf. The *Luxurious*, indeed, are easier let down to base Prostitution than others—

Pasq. And therefore have been at all Times the readier Instruments of Power. What else but *Luxury* warps *Senators* from the Duty owing to Posterity and themselves? They give but to receive, and receive the *Wages* of the Infamy but to support their Extravagance; a Term indeed more harsh than *Luxury*, but which expresses it truly.

Marf. Well may we have seen an unmeaning War, and as unmeaning a Peace, when—

Pasq. *Senators* and Counsellors frisk and caper to the Pipe of *Corruption*, not unlike the Squadrons of the voluptuous *Sybaritæ* of old, who were taught to prance and beat Time to the Music of the Flute.

Marf. And by that very Means were made *Slaves* by the *Crōtonitæ*, who turn'd their own Wantonness upon them in the Day of Battle.

Pasq. Oh, thoughtless Moderns! Oh, senseless Generation! What else but *Chains* can be the Consequence of that *Venality*, so eminently conspicuous among the *Guardians* of national *Liberty*?—These, *Marforio*, are they whom you had just
now

new embroidered with the splendid Epithets of *Brave, Wise,* and *Just*. Recant, old Stiff, or I shall think you have tinsel-ed out your Heroes but to expose them the more, as hard-favour'd Women become the uglier for being deck'd out with Jewels.

Marf. And like the Beautiful of that bewitching Sex, you expect that all should bow before you in Sense and Argument, I suppose you will challenge the *Wisdom* of the *E—b* as you have their *Bravery*.

Pasq. By no Means. What Arrogance wou'd it be for me to doubt the *Wisdom* of a People that act so *wisely*, and without Doubt think themselves the *wisest* of all Nations? Far be it from me to impeach the *Wisdom* of Islanders, that have been, for more than half a Century, running their Noses into all the Quarrels on the *Continent*, and clogging their *Trade* and *Industry*, beyond almost a Possibility of Relief, in Support of those Quarrels. Are not the late *War*, the *Conduct* of it on the Side of *E—d*, and the *Peace*, which puts an End to it, so many recent Proofs of *E---sh Wisdom*? O, fie, the *E---sh* not *wise*, that seek Heaven thro' the Gates of *poverty* and *Subjection*!

Marf. *Poverty* and *Subjection*, *Pasquin*! What would you be now at?

Pasq. Must not a People that *give* more than their *ALL* become *poor*?

Marf. Giving *more than All*, *Pasquin*, favours of that *Profund*. you often charge on others.

Pasq. May not a Man be said to give more than his *All*, who runs in Debt far beyond his Ability to pay? How else but by *giving* annually more than they were able, have the *E---sh* accumulated a Debt of near *four hundred millions* of *Crowns*, which will ever be such a Load on their *Trade* as must bring on *Poverty*, and such an *Engine* in the Hands of *Ministers*, as must bring on *Subjection*? Shew me the Man that dare *resist*, tho' his *Freedom* be invaded, while his Fortune lies at the Mercy of the Powerful. Thou knowest, that where a Man's Treasure is there is his Heart also. Besides, what better Pledge can there be for a Peoples Obedience than such a Mortgage on their Properties? A *Mortgage* pregnant with those courtly Plagues, *Poverty* and *Slavery*, which are Gates by which these *wise* Insularians intend to pass to the *Elysian* Shades. A no less poignant Proof of *E---sh Wisdom*,

is that implicit *Confidence* they repose in their haranguing *Patriots*. Let them change *Sides* never so often, turn their *Coats* never so frequently, bellow for the People or sell and treat them ever so contemptuously; in short, let their *Orators* say and do what they will, so that they are disgusted at their *Betters* and pretend to *Patriotism*, presently they are receiv'd and carress'd by the *wise* Herd, whom they had deceiv'd a thousand Times. What an *Idol* was he, who prun'd the *Olive Tree* lately bearing Fruit at A——x, after he had made that memorable Oration in 1742 against taking H——n Troops into E——b Pay, wherein he treated with uncommon *Politeness* ONE that had since honour'd him with peculiar *Confidence*?

Marf. He was then a *Patriot*.

Pasq. Yes; a loud, railing *Patriot*, as all must be that wou'd lure the *wise* Populace to help pushing them up to Power and Preferment. But shou'd the present ministerial System grow so perplexed as to oblige the Prince to a Change of Hands, we shall see this pliant *Courtier* returning to the oft-try'd *Patriotic Vomit*, and as well received as if he had never warp'd from his Professions to the *wise* Rounds on whom he rose to the Sphere he now shines in———Alas! These are but few of a Multitude of Instances I cou'd bring of the distinguish'd *Wisdom* of these *Wise* Men of *Gotha*, who had expanded an Ocean of Blood and Treasure, in the Memory of Man, in Support of *Religion* which they ridicule, and of *Liberty* whose Substance they are said to have dropt for the Shadow; as that silly *Beast* in the Fable, who to wreak Vengeance on the *Stag*, lost his *Freedom* to him whom he had call'd in to maintain it.

Cervus equum punga melior, Communibus herbis

Pellebat; donec minor in certamine longo

Imploravit opes, hominis frænumque recepit:

Sed postquam victor violens discessit ab hoste,

Non equitem dorso, non frenum depulit ore.

Marf. Well, well; as to the *Wisdom* of that *stubborn* People, I confess the Argument yields to your Side of the Question; but I think it must bend to me when their *Justice* comes to be consider'd.

Pasq. We shall examine E——b *Justice* presently; but let me not pass by a new Epithet you bestow upon them. *That stubborn People!* *Stubborn* where it means a *Tenaciousness* in the Path to *Virtue*, is praise-worthy; but what shall we say if it be directed to a quite contrary object? Constant in ill, stiff
in

in the Wrong, wilful and determin'd in Error, even when Experience points it out; if *stubborn*, in this Light, be an eligible Epithet, you are welcome to deck your Favourites with it.

Marf. The *E——h* of all Nations were my *Favourites*, I confess. But——

Pasq. Since they ceas'd to be that *brave, wise, just* People you have painted them, they are no longer your Darlings. I thought I should be able to take you down as dictatorial as you affect to be. But, prithee, *Marfi*, by what Means have that People forfeited your good Opinion? How long have they been declining in your Esteem?——I see thou art no Adept at Numbers. Shall I calculate for thee?——Let me see; In 16.. they embrac'd a *Novelty* unknown to their Fathers or Laws; a Cloud which a jaundic'd Fiend had presented to them for *Juno*. In 17.. they bargained for *Posterity* against *Conviction* and the stat-ed Maxims of their Country; they offended against *Innocence* then in no Capacity of giving Offence. In 17.. an Opportunity offer'd for recovering the *visual Ray*, but they spurn'd the day-giving Hand from them with Contumely. And in 17.. a second Attempt was made towards their Cure; but, ah, *Marforio*! Urge me not to paint them *truly* on this latter Occasion. The Scene is too gloomy to bear the Light; and the i——ty too big for Words.——Let it suffice, that filleted *Justice* held not the Balance even while the bold Contest lasted, tho' *Fortune* play'd her usual Pranks to shew her Power and make Mortals stare at the Madness of her Distributions.

Marf. Yet, *Pasquin*, the different *Objects* which *Fortune* had then *smiled* and *frowned* upon, bore little Similitude to each other.

Pasq. None. Light and Darknefs differ not more than they. One was a *Cherub* in human Shape, the other a ****, embodied in an ample Entrenchment of Flesh and Blood. Take the Portrait of both, in this Impromptu in the Mother Tongue of our glorious Ancestors.

You

Yet that *Cherub* became the Sport of undiscerning *Fortune*, and was well nigh becoming the Victim of an undiscerning People.—Oh! Scene of Horror! Let us turn Thought from it, dear *Marforio*, that a Scene yet more tragic, of an older Date, may not so fill up the Chasms of the Mind as to render us unapt for treating the important Subject we are met to discuss.

Marf. The Subjects indeed of *War* and *Peace* are of Importance; but are not big national Sins of Importance also? Would not the attempting to remove them, and by that Means avert the *Wrath* and *Justice* of Heaven, be of public Utility? Tho' we should not be able to mend an *abdurate Race*, let us, like our great Countryman of old, do our Part in cautioning them that the unexpiated *Murder* of Majesty draws after it the heaviest Curses in the Stores of Heaven.

—: acerbo fata Romanos agunt,

Scelusque fraternæ necis;

Ut immerentis fluxit in terram Remi

Sacer nepotibus cruor.

Pasq. You forget the stated annual *Commemoration* of that Scene of Horror.

Marf. No, *Pasquin*; I forget not that the *Conduct* of those who *commemorate*, Answer in no Respect the Design of the *Commemoration*. Has it not too much the Air of mocking the Deity, to implore the Forgiveness of a Sin which is hourly repeated, or as often as Occasion offers——But this is not the only Instance of their Inconsistency.

Pasq. Nor of their *Injustice* neither. Yet these are they whom you would bespangle with the glittering Epithet of *just*. In what Page of the *late Annals* of their Country have you found Matter to furnish out the Panegyric on their *Justice*? Is not that very *Commemoration* you mention'd an irrefragable Proof of their having no Claim to the Epithet? Had they any Acquaintance with *Justice*, any Feeling for the Sufferings of *Innocency*, would they thus annually offer to appease without attempting to atone?——But see, he moves majestically this Way who sorrowfully can vouch for the Rectitude of my Charge against his Countrymen.

Marf. His Train bends to the *Vatican*, to confer, I suppose, with the Pontiff concerning the future Conduct of his House on the Present big Event of a Peace.

Pasq. Alas! What matters how the Conduct of that hapless House is shaped? Peace and War to them are the same: They

are watch'd alike in both, and pending both also are in no less Danger from the deadly *Doze* or *Dagger*. Wretched Situation! To be in constant Dread of *deep Design*, and *friendless*!

Marf. And yet was Friendship to be attracted by *spotless Virtue* and by Worth of every Cast, where better could she have attach'd herself?

Pasq. Friendship, *Marforio*, has long since taken her Flight from Earth along with *Justice*. If the *latter* be not to be found in *E——d*, nor the *former* in the Breasts of *Kings*, why shall we look for either below the Moon? I wish I cou'd soar so high to see if Monarchs there deal out their *sacred Promises*, as they do here, to inveigle wrong'd Innocence for private Purposes; or if there be a Nation so wilful as to persevere in *Injustice* to the Ruin of their Trade, at the Expence of their Freedom and Loss of Character.

Marf. Saw you not, *Pasquin*, as the high-born Personage pass'd along, how deeply impress'd was *Sorrow*, on his awful Brow?

Pasq. Well may *Grief* have shot deep its Root, where *Joy* had never chear'd the Heart. The Victim of *Ambition* while yet in the Cradle, and the Sport of *Fortune* ever since, what Acquaintance could he have with *Joy*?

Marf. There was a Time, not long since, when *Joy* seem'd to dawn upon his House.

Pasq. Yes, *Marforio*; and that dawn reflects no less on a deluded People than on a *perjur'd Court* whence *Innocence* is never to expect Relief. *France*, perfidious *Gaul*, plays off an injured House as best answers her own base Purposes without a View to Justice or to Friendship. Does not her Conduct during that late *Dawn* you spoke of, prove the Policy of *France* to be ever to keep the *Exiled* hovering o'er the *Isle*, but never permit their Nestling upon it? Ill fated *Isle*! Whence *Jealousy* and mistaken *Zeal*, have driven all Regard to *Justice* and even to its own true and genuine *Interest*!—But let us wave the unrelishing Subject to treat that which engrosses the present Attention of all *Europe*.

Marf. Peace is the reigning Topic of Conversation; but who knows not that the *Exiled Family* you wish to say no more of, have been the chief Instruments in the Conclusion of that Peace

Pasq. And no less so in the Success of the War on the Side of *France*. But these are Subjects we will discuss at our next Meeting.

Meeting. Farewell, *Marforio*, the busy Crowd thicken about us to glean up the Harvest of our Speculations. I love to disappoint such intruding List'ners. Adieu, till To-morrow's Sun retire to unbend himself in *Thetis's* Lap.

D I A L O G U E II.

Pasq. **W**elcome, thou only Partner of my Cares, thou only, who, beside myself, have outlived the *Freedom* of this ancient Seat of *Liberty*.

Marf. Of the whole World, you might have said. In what Part of it does the fair Nymph reside?

Pasq. Is she not revered among thy Favourites? Can a *brave*, *wise*, and *just* People, as thou wouldst paint the *E——b* to be, subsist without *Liberty*?

Marf. Prithee, name them not.

Pasq. Ha, ha! I thought it would come to this when you examin'd them with Impartiality.

Marf. Every Step of their Conduct sink them but the lower in my Esteem——See, in this Peace, how they abandon their best Ally——

Pasq. After squandering Millions in her Support——But let us trace their Conduct from the Source to this pacific *Ocean* into which they have forced that heroic *Fair* to plunge along with them.

Marf. As they manag'd the War, 'twas Time to put an End to it.

Pasq. They managed the War as they do every Thing else, with an Eye to sinking upon the Public, raising private Fortunes and continuing the ministerial Power. The Public is a Bubble, which the different Parties blow thro' the Tube of *private Self-interest* as Occasion offers.

Marf. And the thoughtless Populace, tho' always play'd off by their different Chiefs, grow not wiser. They were lured into the War with *Spain* by Sycophants who wanted to o'erthrow the then grand Corrupter.

Pasq. And is not there a constant Succession of such *Sycophants* in that hapless Land; Agents deaf to *Truth*, blind to *Justice*,
C 2
partial

partial to the *Vicious*, and prejudiced to the *Virtuous*? Is not the whole modern *System* supported by *Corruption*; and must it not rest on the ruinous Basis while it subsists? *W*—*ould* not a Rupture with *Spain* as it was repugnant to the Interest of his Country, but as the Expence of the War might occasion a Diminution of the Means of *Corruption* in his own Hands.

Marf. And his immediate *Succeſſor* urg'd on the War that these Means might be increas'd—

Pasq. In his *M—r's* Hands, whose *Biaſs* he was determin'd to ſooth at all Events. To this End was the War with *Spain* neglected, and one with *France* nurs'd up ſo as to oblige her to an open Breach.

Marf. A wiſe Nation wou'd and might have avoided the *Spaniſh* War, but when once declar'd it ſhould have been proſecuted with Vigour, as the only Means for bringing it to a ſpeedy End.

Pasq. You forget that the Welfare of the Community is no Article in the C—t Symbol of that Country. Had the Happineſs of the People been conſulted, wou'd a waſting War on the *Continent* been urg'd, when it might have been avoided; or would it not have been purſued with Ardour when commenc'd?

Marf. That perverſe People do nothing like others. They ſcorn to take Example or follow Advice. They ſeem deſtin'd to purſue noxious Meaſures, and avoid the ſalutary.

Quæ nocuere ſequar: Fugiam quæ proſore credam:

Pasq. Such will ever be the Fate of a Nation acting *partially*. Is it not juſt that the *Unjuſt* ſhould be miſt in the Conduct of their Affairs? Had not this been decreed for their Punishment, wou'd they have drain'd their waſted Country of ſo many Millions in ſupport of a *Ballance of Power* which they more than all others have contributed to deſtroy? Before the *R—n*, *England* may be truly ſaid to have held the *Ballance of Power*, as ſhe was independent and had no extraneous *Interſt* to claſh with or warp her from the Purſuit of her natural.

Marf. Yes, *Pasquin*; the *Succeſſes* of *Queen Anne's* Reign are ſo many Proofs of the Rectitude of your Aſſertion. She, good, but miſtaken Princeſs, had no ſeparate *Interſt* to purſue. Her Heart was *Engliſh*, and as ſuch the *Proſperity* of *England* alone was its Object.

Pasq.

Pasq. The Successes of that Queen's Reign, shew indeed what *England* is capable of when her Force is skillfully directed, and her Interest only pursued; but I can't help seeing Specks in that *British Sun*: The Character of that fair Arbitress of the Fate of *Europe* is not unblameable.

Marf. She had upright Intentions——

Pasq. When 'twas too late—A Soul truly great, truly just, would not give Cause for Remorse, but where it was necessary, would not put it off to the last Ebb of Life. Nor was her earlier Conduct unexceptionable; but let me rest here, not to enter on the Examine of her *filial Piety*.

Marf. Her Reign was one constant Series of Success——

Pasq. And of what Benefit were her Successes to her Country? She fought for the *Balance of Power*; a Phantom the *English* have been taught to hunt after since the Revolution, but left it as unfixed as she found it. And the very End for which she drew the Sword was forgot in the putting it up, the House of *Bourbon* being rather more powerful after than before that War. Except a national Debt of *Two hundred millions of Crowns*, I don't see what the *English* have got by the Victories of their Heroine.

Marf. You forget the important Acquisitions of *Gibraltar* and *Minorca*, and the exclusive Trade of the *Assiento*. Here, *Pasquin*, were Advantages worth all the Blood and Treasure employ'd in that expensive War.

Pasq. So were that credulous People taught to believe in those Days of Pageantry and Delusion. If but public Rejoicings are made for Victory, no matter how much Blood it cost, or whether or no the Conquest be of Use with the Community. The *English* are above the Drudgery of *Examination*: And, which is as little reconcileable to Prudence and common Sense, they scorn to yield even to the Prevalency of *Experience*, that unerring Guide to sublunary Agents. Had that thoughtless Generation walk'd by Reason's Clue, and consulted the real, that is the *commercial* Interest of their Country, they would have chosen to regain the Friendship of the *Spanish* Nation, to be reconciled to that jealous People, rather than to have extorted such *Pledges* from them as could not but increase their Jealousy, and perpetuate their Animosity. *Louis XIV.* saw Queen *Anne's* greedy Ministers ready to swallow any colourable Bait, in order to forward a Peace which they stood so much in need of, for stemming the domestic Torrent against them;

them; and adroitly threw out these Hooks cover'd with the spacious, alluring Pretexts of *Security* and *Commercial Benefit*. *Gibraltar* was the Key of the *Mediterranean*; *Minorca* commanded that whole Sea and consequently the circumjacent States, and the *Assiento* open'd to *England*, a Way to the Treasures of the *Indies*. A glittering Varnish under which *Louis's* deep Designs were couch'd, but which Father *Time* has wore off to the Conviction of all *Europe*, except those who scorn to take *Experience* for their Guide.

Marf. You seem inclin'd to think that *Louis XIV.* wish'd that *England* might retain those Conquests.

Pasq. Indubitably. As a wise Prince, he saw there was no Way so likely to reconcile the *Spaniards* to his Family and Country as by creating their Jealousy of the *English*, who, next to the *Flemings*, were the Nation in *Europe* best liked and most cherish'd in *Spain*.

Marf. I confess that on so deep a Plan, there could be no Means more effectual for working up the Jealousy and Rancour of the *Spaniards* than the three Articles forced upon them by the Treaty of *Utrecht*. A Nation so particularly tenacious of Honour as the *Spaniards*, can ill brook such a Separation of their ancient *Celtiberia*, or such a Partnership in their favourite Trade.

Pasq. What Nation less haughty than they wou'd bear such a Fortress as *Gibraltar* to be torn from them merely for the Sake of having a *Bit* in their Jaws, and holding them in constant Subjection? In vain shall the *English* hope to recover the Friendship and Trade of *Spain*, while they withhold those *Pledges* which have produced all the ill Blood that has appear'd between both Nations, in various Shapes since the last general War.

Marf. And could not the *English* have foreseen the ill Consequences of not avoiding the *Snare* laid for them by *France*?

Pasq. The *English* foresee Consequences and avoid Snares! Ha! Ha! would'st thou that a People wou'd ply up against the strong Tide of *Prejudice*, who hold all kinds of *Resistance* lawful but that to the *Passions*? It would be swerving from Nature for them to *Foresee* or *Avoid*. Don't you see that even *Experience*, the common Parent of Wisdom, does not make them Wiser. They might have commanded a separate Peace with *Spain* on the Death of *Philip V.* and by detaching that Crown from *France*, have reduced her to the Necessity of
sloop-

stooping to them for what Peace they pleased ; this they might have done, would they yield up that useless *Fortress* which has stood them in so many *Millions* since the Peace of *Utrecht* to maintain the Possession of it, and so many more lost to them, by the Increase of the *French* Trade with *Spain*, occasioned by her jealousy of *England* on Account of that very Possession.

Marf. Pasquin, Do you call that an *useless* *Fortress* which is thought to be the *Key* of the *Mediterranean* ?

Pasq. A Nation so powerful at Sea as the *English*, that can force open Locks by their Cannon, stand in no need of *Keys*; but did they want one for their Security, *Spain* thou'd be the last Crown in *Europe* of which they ought to have exacted any. So far otherwise, that was it but to recover the Confidence of *Spain*, and wrest the whole Trade of that Kingdom from *France*, it wou'd have been the Interest of *England* to restore that *Key*, as it is injudiciously call'd, tho' it had been of more Use than it is, or ever can be to the present Possessors.

Marf. But in Case of a War with *Spain*——

Pasq. War is a Trade by which the *English* can never hope to thrive, as their Business is to live well with Mankind. But a War with *Spain* is what they should avoid as studiously, I had almost said, as with Heaven.

Marf. With which they wage incessant War, if Scepticism on one Hand, and Variety of Opinions on the other, be committing Hostilities against the unerring Legislator.

Pasq. If *Christ's* Kingdom had been of this nether World, they might be more cautious, but his Artillery being invisible they are apt to overlook his Power, as they do sometimes their Interest, which you'll say is a Contradiction——

Marf. As much as if a covetous Man overlook'd Opportunities of filling his Coffers.

Pasq. Or Nations of securing their *Freedom* and improving their *Trade*; yet won't you own that the *English* have slipt most favourable Occasions where both were essentially concern'd? But to wave the Consideration of *Liberty*, is it not clear to all *Europe* that their Detention of *Gibraltar* and *Minorca* and their illicit Commerce under Colour of the *Assiento*, have contributed to the Declension of the *British* and Increase of the *French* Trade. Hence, and not from the Ambition of the Dowager of *Spain*, sprung all those Feuds and Quarrels between that and the *English* Crown, which have so deeply wounded the
Trade

Trade of *England*. Hence flows that Gall which embitters *Spaniards* against *Englishmen*, so evidently to the Detriment of the Latter and Benefit of their *French* Rivals.

Marf. Surely, *Pasquin*, the *English* don't see the ill Consequences of being on bad Terms with *Spain*——

O Fortunatos nimium, sua si bona nôrint, Anglos !

Pasq. See Consequences ! Lord help thee ! I say again, how cou'd it come into thy Noddle to think that the *English* could see into Futurity ! Happy ! if they cou'd see the Present, or even the Past ! Might not they have seen all *Europe*, especially *France*, running away with their Trade ever since they were ensnared to listen to the Voice of *Sportsmen*, that led them to the *Continent* in Chase of the *Balance of Power* ? May they not see that their Possession of *Gibraltar* has increased their national Debts some *Millions*, without any Advantage, except enriching some scandalous *Plunderers*, whose cruel *Exactions* have contributed to the Growth of the Enmity of the *Spaniards*, and to render the *English* Name more odious among *Foreigners* ? Might they not have seen that their *Assiento* Company have been immense *Loosers* by the *Contract*, and that the national Trade with old *Spain* was declining while the Company lost by their Trade to the New ?——But there being no surer or shorter Road to the Knowledge of what the *English* will do than to suppose they will do as they ought not, I will take it for granted, that they will retain those Pledges from *Spain* till *France*, shall have quite worm'd them out of the *Spanish* Trade, and untill they plunge themselves into more *Debts* and *Taxes*, so as not to be able to work within the Reach of any Market in the World.

Marf. I cannot think but the *English*, as undiscerning as they seem to you, will lay hold of the present Peace for recovering the Friendship and Trade of *Spain*, as necessary for beating the *French* out of such Branches of Commerce as interfere with the *British*. And in this View, 'tis the Business of the Court of *London* to lay hold of the new Bias of that of *Madrid*, which inclines to the old *Spanish* Interests and Maxims.

Pasq. Yes, *Marforio* ; was the Court of *London* truly in the Interest of *E———d*, the Court of *Madrid* and the whole *Spanish* Nation wou'd be indulged with the Restoration of a *Fortress*, which is useless but chargeable to *England*,
and

and without which the Recovery of the Trade of *Spain* is impracticable. But have you not observed, for more than the Third of a Century, that *Western* Cabinet to have had different Views, and to have pursued a different Interest from that of the Nation? The Interest of the Nation required that in a long interval of Peace, the *public Debts* shou'd be paid off; but the Interest of the C——t was to keep them up and increase them for the Purpose of *Subjection*. The Aggrandizement of a *Foreign Territory* has been all along arduously pursued by the C——t at an immense Expence, tho' the Pursuit was manifestly repugnant to the Interest of the Nation. And, perhaps the C——t may have its particular Views in the Detention of *Gibraltar*, tho' it be visibly for the Interest of *England* to yield it up to *Spain*.

Marf. What View cou'd the Court have in the Detention of that Fortress except that of bridling *Spain*?

Pasq. Thou hast hit it. The calming *Spain* and allaying her Jealousies is the Interest of *England*, while that of the C——t may be to keep up *Dissentions* with foreign Powers as the best Colour for continuing the *public Expence* and keeping up a *Standing Army*. You can't conceive *Marforio*, how refined the C——t of *L——n* is become since *G——n* Maxims have been introduced there. Every Man in the Kingdom has his *Price* and becomes a *Patriot* or *Gourtier* as he is soothed or neglected; and every public *Measure* is weighed in the Scale of *Self-Interest*, that is, 'tis tried by the *H——r Touch-stone*. If it square with that Standard, 'tis pursued; but rejected if the cherish'd *E——e* have no Interest in its Consequences. Saw you not how *reluctantly* the C——t went into the *Spanish War*, and how *wantonly* that on the *Continent* was provoked? There was a Chance that the *E——e* might have been *inlarg'd* by the Event of the Latter, and *enrich'd* in the Course of it by the Hire of a large Corps of its Troops; but a War with *Spain*, which must be simply naval, cou'd in no Light coincide with the particular Interest of *H——r*.

Marf. A strange Itch those Islanders have to that for which they are so ill fitted by Nature! The Sea is their Province—

Pasq. And was that only on which they exerted their Skill and Strength for some Ages before the Revolution. But since that *Ara* the People are turn'd *Quixots*, mind every one's Business but their own, run in Debt for the Honour of having their Brains knock'd out in distant Plains, and of being deem'd the Guardians of public Liberty. A pompous but sleeveless

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Incentive

Incentive with a *Trading Nation*, secluded by their Situation from the ill Consequences of Jars and Feuds on the Continent!

Marf. Still do you forget their *Connexion* with the *Continent* since the A———n.

Pasq. No, *Marforio*; that fatal *Connexion* has created the Difference of *Interests* which I observed to have been pursued by the Cabinet of L———n for a Series of Years. That *Connexion* gave rise to the War and was productive of the Peace.

Marf. How, my little *Pasquin*! The same *Connexion*, that is, in other Words, the Interest of dear H———r, has produced both the War and the Peace? Take care, my *Machiavel*, that your Petulancy don't run you on the Shelves of Contradiction and Error.

Pasq. Take heed lest thou shou'dst dogmatize to thy Confusion. Was the Interest of *England* Concerned in the *Transport* of her Troops to the Continent without being invited by those most concern'd in the Consequences of the War? Was it consulted when that Measure was pursued repugnant to the Desire of the *Dutch*, who were next the Danger if any had been apprehended? Had *England* any concern in that long and expensive March to *Germany* which furnished *France* with a Pretext for withdrawing her Troops from *Austria* and *Bohemia*, where she expended in vain her Millions and buried her Legions? The Heroine of *Hungary* was effectually doing the Business of *France*, when lo, the March of a Royal Army beyond *Dettingen*, gave Colour for the Retreat of an Enemy she was otherwise sure to destroy.

The same *Motives* that urged the Cabinet of L———n to provoke *France* to the War, stood afterwards in the Way to Peace, when the Courts of *Vienna* and *Munich* had nothing to expect of each other but what was reciprocally granted. After the Disappointment of *Noailles* at *Dettingen*, *France* was sincerely for Peace in an Apprehension of being successfully attack'd in *Alsace* and *Lorraine*; the Emperor *Charles VII.* had still stronger *Motives* to bend him to a pacific Disposition. He saw himself abandon'd by *France*, the only Ally he cou'd rely on; or rather he saw *France*, far from being able to support him in *Germany*, scarce in a Condition to defend himself at Home. The Queen of *Hungary* was willing to lay hold of so favourable an Opportunity for ending the War in the Empire, that she might the better push that in *Italy*, when

when she was less jealous that the King of *Sardinia* shou'd enlarge himself, than that *Don Philip* shou'd get a Footing.

Marf. An ill judged Jealousy it was, considering that all might be lost to that Princess in this Country unless the King of *Sardinia* took up the Gauntlet in her Behalf.

Pasq. And pray, what has she saved here except a Selvage of the *Milanese* which she is sure to hold no longer than 'till the House of *Bourbon* shall have taken Breath? But this is Matter for our subsequent Consideration.—Well, but as for the Jealousy of the Court of *Vienna* of that of *Turin*, it was as conspicuous as fatal to the common Cause. *Genoa* was saved by it on one Hand and *France* on the other.

Marf. You mean that the King of *Sardinia*, became Jealous in his Turn and seconded not, as he engag'd to do, the Efforts of Count *Brown* in the Invasion of *Provence*.

Pasq. Was not Jealousy the standing Sauce to all the Operations of the War on the Side of the Confederates? The Queen of *Hungary* was jealous that the King of *Sardinia* might elbow himself out of her Reach here in *Italy*, and he no less, that she might be in Circumstances to dictate to him. The *English* were jealous that the *Dutch* enjoy'd the Trade of *Spain* pending the War, and therefore were constantly egging the wary Cheese-Mongers to an open Breach with the House of *Bourbon*. And the C——t of L———n was jealous that the House of *Austria* might, as before the War, give the Law in *Germany*.

Marf. Hold, *Pasquin*. Doth not thy glib Tongue out-run thy Understanding?

Pasq. Because I insinuate, that the Interests of *England* and of H——r operated differently during the War. While *England* was doling away her Millions in Support of the House of *Austria*, as a necessary Bulwark against the Ambition of *France*, is it not notorious that the *English* C——t, or rather the C——t of H———r in *England*, thwarted the glorious Design in various Instances? And with what View but that of cutting the Wings, of an *Eagle* whose Pinnions might o'er shadow the dear E———e! Ah, *Marfi*, were the *English* as much in love with *Justice*, and *Louis XV.* with the *Youth* he inhospitably forces from his Kingdom, as a certain Prince is with H———r, then——

Marf. Might that friendless *Youth* be able to turn the Tables on his ungenerous *Host*.

Pasq. As he deserves—ungenerous *Host* indeed! There is something in the Conduct of *Louis*, in regard to that steady *Youth*, which levels that Monarch with the lowest Class of Men. To lure him from a tender *Parent*, by big *Promises* never intended to be kept; to buoy him up with Hopes of *Succours* never meant to be sent; and after he had served all the Purposes of *France* to be compell'd to leave it—a King, a great King, to act such a Part!—

Marf. If by *Great* you mean Powerful, I agree with you; but, *Pasquin*, to call *Louis* the *Well beloved*, as the fullsome *French* Nation affect to stile their Prince, *Great* in any other Sense, wou'd be satyrizing him. Need there be a stronger Proof of his having no Claim to the high Epithet than his Treatment of that *Youth* who was the Delight of our Fellow-Citizens while he honour'd us with his Presence?

Pasq. You may remember, my dear old Companion, how you and I lamented that his wife *Father* wou'd yield to the Wiles of *France*, after he had so oft' experienced her Desingenuity in his own Person.

Marf. He yielded with Reluctance to the urgent Persuasions of the Son, whose active Soul thirsted for Glory. Hapless *Youth*! Who experiences in himself the self-interested Politics of a Court which never intends that his *Family* shall be in a Condition to *Oppose* her Schemes or retaliate her *Favours*!

Pasq. Must they not be stupidly Blind that do not see into the Refinements of the *French* Cabinet with regard to the *S—t* Family?

Marf. Rather must not the *French* Statesmen be *Beetles* not to see that they had provoked that *Family* too often and grossly, ever to hope to secure their Friendship?

Pasq. Marry, I think the whole Globe is o'er run with a Race of *Beetles*. What else do we see but two legged Animals that act as if the Eyes of their Understanding were in their Posteriors?

Marf. You put me in Mind of that wise Mad-man who refused the Helps of Physick unless a Physician with three Eyes was brought him.

Pasq. Ha, ha! I suppose he wou'd have the *third Eye* fixt in the Tip of the fore Finger of the right Hand—a notable Wight, who believed Physicians to know as little what causes Disorder within the Body, as you and I believe that the *English* know not the *Depths* of the Politics of their own Cabinet. They are *Jealous* of all the World but least of those whom they shou'd suspect most.

Marf.

Marf. I am glad you are return'd to the Subject of *Jealousy* which we were upon. *England*, you say, was bolstering up the tottering Bird of *Jove*, while *H——r* wish'd his Masters quills Clipt for fear it shou'd ever come into his Mind to pick out one or both the Eyes of the beloved *White Palfry*. Ha! ha!

Pasq. As shallow as you may reckon the Depth of my Politics, they reach to the Discovery of those Motives which stood in the Way to Peace at *Hannau* when the Prince of *Hesse* negotiated on his *Prussian* Majesty's Plan. There, *Marforio*, the *Helm* of Affairs appear'd to be wholly trusted to partial *H——n* Hands. The Heiress of *Austria*, as suggested before, had nothing to expect from the House of *Bavaria*, that was not yielded to by *Charles VII.* she wou'd have avoided entering into a new Treaty with the Court of *Turin*, which she foresaw, from the Partiality of the C——t of *L——n*, wou'd increase the Dominions of *Sardinia* at her Expence?

Marf. And the subsequent Treaty of *Worms* proves the Rectitude of her Apprehensions.

Pasq. Ah! that Cream of Contracts, which proclaims the Equity as well as *Foresight* of a certain *Western* Nation, who arrogate to themselves the Justice of *Minos* and Penetration of *Ulysses*!—It must be confess'd, that the disposing of the Territory of a *Neutral State* was superlatively equitable; and as surely ought we no less to applaud that *Wisdom*, which by so *Equitable* a Measure, forced that neutral, pacific *State* to seek for Protection under the Wings of the Enemy?—But the C——t of *L——n*, ever consistent with itself, acted herein but as it had done just before at *Hannau*. There, a Peace, a durable Peace, was obstructed because the Court of *Vienna* did not seem inclined to an Extention of the E——e by the Addition of certain *Bishopricks* to be secularized: And here at *Worms*, the Heiress of *Austria* was to be made sensible of her *Obstinacy*, by involving her with the *Genoese* at the Expence of her filial Piety and the Memory of her Father, and by carving out her *Italian* Dominions to him she was most jealous of.

Marf. I expect, in your Refinements, to find you imputing to *H——n* Politics the Inaction of the latter Part of the Campaign of *Dettingen*.

Pasq. Surely, it requires no great Subtilty to shew that *Alsace* and *Lorraine* might have been the Winter Quarters of the allied

allied Armies that Year, if there had been no *H——r Remora* to impede their Operations. But it wou'd not answer the particular Interest of *H——r* that those Countries shou'd be torn from *France*, and added to the Possessions of the Queen of *Hungary*, whose Power in *Germany*, was already but too much the Object of the Dread of the *Electorate*. Take it for a Certainty, that the Increase of the Power of the House of *Austria* was as much the Object of the Jealousy of *H——r* as it was the Interest and Desire of *England*. And does not the *Inaction* of the subsequent Campaign of 1744, prove the Rectitude of this Suggestion? To what else but the Jealousy of *H——r*, can the shameless Inaction of Marshal *Wade* be imputed; when Marshal *Saxe* lay at his Mercy in *Flanders*, after the *French* had been draughted away to *Alsace* to cover that Country from the Invasion of Prince *Charles* of *Lorraine*?

Marf. And is it possible that such obvious Partiality to a foreign Interest, shou'd not have open'd the Eyes of a People that were draining themselves of their Blood and Wealth in Support of a Cause which their C——t was intent to defeat?

Pasq. Alas! *Marforio*! That People see but thro' the Glass of *Corruption*, which reflects Objects but as the C——t Directs. Was not this the Case, wou'd they have embark'd in a War on the *Continent* against the powerfullest Crown in *Europe* without Allies, except Beggars, they were obliged to support, without Generals to command, or without Statesmen to direct?—But see, my venerable Fellow-Labourer, the bright Rays of *Phæbus* are already broke in upon us from the East. Let us postpone the further Discussion of this knotty Subject till the Night draws her sable Curtains to hide us from the preying Sons of Men.

D I A L O G U E III.

Marf. THOU art slower to Night than usual *Pasquin*; what has detain'd thee from thy old Acquaintance?

Pasq. Business, Advices of Importance, old Stiff, which sets the Pontiff and all his plodding Red-caps a mashing the deep Tub of Politics with all their Force. *Bellona*, hush'd to rest, in the *West*, with so great Art, seems only to have withdrawn

withdrawn a while to appear in the *North* with greater Terror. The Emissaries of our Court at all the frozen Regions, loudly Trumpet an approaching War in that Quarter of the Globe.

Marf. Which 'tis no Business of this Court to obstruct. For let the Event be what it will, the *Infallibility* may be extended but can't be contracted by the Consequences of a War between the stiff Adherents to the *Greek Church* and the Pliant, reform'd Professors of *Pyrrhonism*.

Pasq. Dost thou not mistake, *Marforio*, the Basis on which the *Reformation* rests?

Marf. *Private Judgment*, than which, can any thing be more Pliant or Fallible? Where each Individual is a *Pope* to himself, must he not be eternally toss'd too and fro by the shifting Wind of Fancy? Therefore, *Pasquin*, that very corner Stone on which the reformed rest their Belief, is that which strips them of all Certainty.

Pasq. Certainty! ha, ha! the Word sounds not amiss, and the Consideration of it is pretty enough in Speculation; except in Death, I know not where 'tis to be found.

Marf. Seek it in the Church of *Christ*, and you can't miss it.

Pasq. There again you leave me to seek——The Church of *Christ*! Who is he among the Professors of Christianity that thinks not himself of that Church? No, *Marforio*, there is no scrambling o'er the spreading Mountains in the Way but by the Ladder of *Infallibility*; and for this Reason, I have often wonder'd that our spiritual Prize-fighters had not stuck to the Proof of this single Position. What Labour had been saved——

Marf. And what Rancour avoided.—What a Scandal is it to Religion that its Professors shou'd hate one another for not being able to think alike?

Pasq. You see thence, my Friend, the Use of *Infallibility*, was it but as the simple Band of Charity and Union.—But what is it to thee or me that the Sons of Men shou'd deal in Absurdity, or that the *Bears* in the *North* shou'd worry one another in that growing Scuffle, which *France* seems to have had in View when she lately accelerated the slow Work of Peace beyond all Expectation?

Marf. *France* indeed might have wish'd to see the Fire of Confusion kindled in the *North*, and probably has contributed to laying those Brands that are ready to blaze. But cou'd she have lit them up she certainly had done so before she embraced the

the Peace. Nor do I think she wou'd so hastily have put an End to the War, had she foreseen what is so soon likely to come to pass in the North.

Pasq. What Weight cou'd *France* have been in the Northern Scale, if burthen'd with the Cares and vast Expence of a doubtful War? Is she not now more at Leisure to bestow Circumspection on that distant Scene, and better able to feed the Lamp with *Subsidiary* Oil, without which *Sweden* can never be in a Condition to move to Advantage? 'Tis a Question with me if even *Prussia*, with all his boasted Strength, can bear up with much Grace in the coming Conflict, unless *France* brace his Arm with the Balsam of her Treasures.

Marf. No wonder then that that *Machiavel* of the North shou'd have been so unweariedly urgent with *France* to put an end to the War——

Pasq. No wonder *France* shou'd be urgent to put an End to a War she was utterly unable to continue with any View of Success.

Marf. Utterly unable! how easily, *Pasquin*, dost thou slide into the absurd when thy little Clapper is in Motion——
France utterly unable to continue a successful War!

Pasq. She was successful in the *Netherlands* because her Enemies were infatuated. Had there been *Concord* or *Skill* among them she wou'd have been as much at their Mercy there as on the Ocean. And even supported as *France* was by the Jealousy, Discord, and Errors of the Confederates, what Hand wou'd she have made of it, had not that adventurous Youth, whom she now drives from her Limits, held up her Back? Unaided as he was with either Men or Money, he found such Resources within himself as might open his Way to compleat Success, had he been obey'd and serv'd with Fidelity. But hapless as his Expedition prov'd to himself, still was he an useful Ally to *France*.

Marf. Whose Interest it wou'd seem to have been to have supported the Cause he was embark'd in.

Pasq. The prior Consideration, in this Example, shou'd be what is the Interest of *France* with regard to the contending Families. 'Tis evident, from her Conduct to the Exiled, that she sees not her Interest in their Establishment. This Difficulty then being thus got over, why shou'd we wonder that *France* has starv'd the youthful Adventurer's Cause, which she might be afraid wou'd succeed, abandon'd as it was.

Marf.

Marf. After two signal Victories obtain'd, I admire not if a Court dreaded his Success, whose *Interest*, you say, it was that he shou'd not succeed.

Pasq. Yet might *Gratitude* have exacted a different Conduct from that Crown. *France* puts a fair End to this War, when she lay almost gasping at the Mercy of *England*, by Means of the bold *Adventurer*, who drew off the Force and Attention of *Britain* from the Continent for two whole Campaigns : Nor is it less certain, that the House of *Bourbon* had never been able to have dilated itself to *Spain*, *Sicily*, *Naples*, and *Parma*, as we see To-day, if a *Stuart* had not wore the *British* Diadem when *Louis XIV.* offer'd to abandon *Philip* his Grandson to the Mercy of the Confederates. Queen *Anne's* Biass to her B——r and her Treasurer *Oxford's* ready Concurrence with her in a Scheme of his own liking, preserved the Crown already tottering on the old Monarch's Head. So that it may be truly said, that the *Bourbons* owe all their present Power and Greatness to that wandering Family, whom *France* never intends shall be fixt or settled.

Marf. Besides *Ingratitude* and *Insincerity*, so natural to *Frenchmen*, might not other Reasons be assign'd for the cool Conduct of *France* towards the R——l Wanderers?

Pasq. Yes, that she might think they wou'd become the Cement of *Harmony* and *Concord*. Vain Apprehension ! *Harmony* and *Concord* in E——d ! How little vers'd must they be in the Annals of that Country, how ignorant of the Genius of the Natives that cou'd suppose that any unmission'd by Heaven, cou'd be able to graft *Concord* and *Union* on the Crab Stocks of *Fickleness*, *Murmur*, *Dissention* and *false Freedom* !

Marf. Unmission'd by Heaven ! Ha, ha ! Dost think, *Pasquin*, that the *Free-born* wou'd bend to a Plenipo that did not bribe lustily, not with Promises of Bliss to come, but with the good Things of this World ? There is a Family, were the *Wanderers* out of the Way, that might bid fair to bribe not only the E——sh to its Interest, but all the Branches of the House of *Bourbon*. And I am not clear but *France* wishes the Extinction of the S——ts, that the House of *Savoy's* Claim may stand foremost in the List of Competitors for the *British* Crown on the frail Foot of H——y Right.

Pasq. You think, then, that the House of *Savoy*, by dealing out its present Dominions on the North of the *Alps* to *France*, and on the South to the Sons of *Spain*, the Power of the whole House of *Bourbon* wou'd be exerted in favour of the Claim of his *Sardinian* Majesty and his Royal Descendants ?

E

Marf.

Marf. Is not dear *Interest* the Bond of all Friendship between Princes; and who can so well satiate the Avidity of the *Bourbons* as he who has such fair contiguous Territories to divide among them? If ever we shou'd see the present blooming *Hopes* of the *S——ts* drop without Issue, we may count that the House of *H——r* will find a more dangerous *P——r* than has hitherto appeared on the Stage of Competition. And for this Reason, it was the Surprize of many, that the Cabinet of *London* wou'd be so attach'd to the Court of *Turin*, I may say so sway'd by that Court as has been obvious to all *Europe* throughout the whole Course of the War, and particularly in obstructing the Peace, which if made when offer'd by *France*, and relish'd by *England*, but opposed by *Sardinia*, wou'd have sav'd *Britain* above *Seventy Millions* of *Crowns*.

Pasq. Still art thou willing to believe the *C——t* of *L——n* capable of deviating into Rectitude of Conduct. Was it eligible to have supported the King of *Sardinia* with all the Power of *E——d*, we shou'd see him abandon'd as the Empress Queen has been by the Treaty we are met to dissect. *E——d* deals no less in *Contrariety* than in *Woollen Manufactures*; and *Contradiction* is as much its Growth as *Wool*. *France* after every Advantage she gain'd in the *Netherlands*, renew'd her offers of Peace, well knowing the short Extent of her own Credit and Purse. After the Victory of *Fontenoy* she offer'd the same Peace which is now agree'd on; the same she did after that of *Rocoux*, and continued her Solicitations after the Battle of *Val*, and Surrender of the maiden Bulwark of the *Dutch*. All these Offers were haughtily rejected by the *C——t* of *L——n*, while yet *France* was in plight to support the War. But, lo! as soon as her *naval* Force was shiver'd to Atoms, and her *colonies* on the Brink of yielding to the Lords of the Ocean, rather than starve; as soon as it was known that her Treasures were well nigh exhausted, her Credit stretch'd to its utmost Extent, her Trade ruin'd, and her People ready to famish and rebel; as soon I say as a Body of *Auxiliaries*, that must have poiz'd the Scale of the War, was known to be at Hand, *Holland* purg'd of her Phlegm by the Choice of a *Stadtholder* warmly in the Interest of *England*, and the whole Face of Things alter'd as much for the better with the Confederates as for the worse with *France* then were the oft' rejected Offers of that Crown not only embraced but as greedily swallow'd, as if *England* had been on the Verge of Destruction and *France* in the Zenith of Prosperity—What pity, my Friend, that *Fortune* shou'd have a Bandage o're her Eyes. Cou'd she see, wou'd she not bestow her Favours on the

Just

Just and Wise? England had it in her Power to lay France at her Feet, yet she lifts her up to puzzle and perplex the World hereafter. Ah! How *unwise* the Alternative, how *unjust* to withhold the *Helm* from him who has Virtues and Abilities to adorn and steer the Bark of State!

—*Servat multos Fortuna nocentes,*

Et tantum Miseres irasci Numina discunt.

Marf. The Favourite of all the Muses, the Sage in Council and the Wit in Conversation, that Consummate, Patriot Statesman! Ah! had he, had C——f——d borne the Sway in the Cabinet to which his Virtues and Talents intitled him, how had the Scene be changed!

Pasq. Yes, *Marforio*; had that Lord been allow'd to pursue the glorious Plan he had in View when he chose to quit his peaceful Ease in order to extricate his Country from the fruitless expensive Burthen of an unequal War, *England* wou'd have earlier embraced the pacific Overtures of the Enemy. But *Envy* and *Jealousy* stood in his Way, and left him but the Shadow of that Power annex'd to the high Post assign'd him. The great Man saw the growing Inability of *France*, but saw likewise the Inequality of the Burden consign'd to his Country, and advised the giving Ease to the latter before *Despair* might urge the Enemy to offer a second domestic Stab to a Land not yet at full Peace within itself. He might suppose that *France*, as inattentive as she may have been to the Interest of the *S—ts*; wou'd not fail to play them on *England*, as the surest Game she cou'd play if press'd abroad. Nor was he sure but the Blood recently shed, for Example, might prove the Means of securing Success to the young *Adventurer* in a second Attempt. For, Examples of Justice, if thought to walk too near the Edge of *Rigour*, seldom eradicate the Seeds of *Discontent*, and often prove the best Nuture to the baleful Plant. But various other Reasons might be assign'd for that *powerless* Minister's Urgency for Peace.

Marf. His being *powerless* was no very bad ministerial Reason in a Country where *Opposition* is the readiest Path to Power. I will suppose then he might have opposed the Continuance of the War in order to acquire that *Power* which was wrested from him by One far less capable of turning either *Power* or *Favour* to the proper Use.

Pasq. Ah, *Marforio*! Name not the insulting *Controller* as a *Favourite*. Cou'd he have been one after the *Compulsary* Scene that had preceded Lord C——f——d's Acceptance of the Seals?

Marf. What else but *Favour* can support that Minister in

the Exercise of that more than ministerial *Power*, which has put an End to the War just when it was most Necessary to pursue it with Vigour ?

Pasq. Love and Fear are the most predominant Passions of the Soul ; and the latter in some Minds, is the keenest of the two. Let us to *this* then impute the *Power*, which was impossible for Lord C——f——d to bend to without wounding his Honour and debasing the Post he held. Let us to *this* impute the sudden Change in the Conduct of that All-mighty Minister with regard to Peace.

While the new Secretary urged the Conclusion of a Peace, as necessary, since the Conduct of the War was to continue in *unskilful Hands*, his powerful Colleague bore him down but not by Strength of Argument. Yet when *public Credit* slacken'd, tho' imputable solely to the mistaken Conduct of the Schemist who projected the Method of raising the Supplies, that stumbling Advocate for War, *trembling* for the Event, alter'd his harsh Tone to Peace. Such always will be the Operation of *Fear* in weak Minds, while the wise Statesman bears up steadily against Accidents, and averts the fatal Consequence of yielding too suddenly to the dastard Passion. *Fear* operated no less in the Breast of the new *Stadtholder*, who dreaded being unhorsed if *France* shou'd chance to push her Conquests nearer the Vitals of the Republic.

Marf. This Patch-work Peace then is the Child of *Fear* ?

Pasq. Yes, *Marforio*, the ricketty Brat was engender'd between an E——h Beetle and a Dutch Sutterkin. The *English* M——r shudder'd at the Apprehension of the Failure of *public Credit*, in a Dread that if Credit fail'd, *that* wou'd also fail which was not only his own immediate Support but that likewise of the new System of G——t.

Marf. Nay if the Means of *Corruption* fail an E——h Cabinet, farewell all the new fangled Systems of Time-serving Statesmen. If once the Debts of the Nation come to be discharg'd and the Taxes reduced, the present mighty Influence of Ministers wou'd necessarily cease, as the Means of *Corruption* in their Hands wou'd be dwindled to a Dwarf from the Giant it is at present. Then, *Pasquin*, shou'd we see *New* Systems make Way for *Old*. If once *Corruption* be banish'd Men will naturally return to their *Senses*.

Pasq. If the Sky fall, we shall catch Larks——*Corruption* banish'd from *England*, the national Debts discharg'd, and the Taxes reduced ! —— Let me feel, *Marfi*, if thy chizzled Locks be not dropping wet. Surely thou hast been bathing thyself in the River of *Forgetfulness*. What cou'd come into thy

thy poor Noddle to think that a C---t will part with the only *Staffs* it leans on? Dost thou not know that *Debts, Taxes* and *Corruption* are the *Barriers* that secure the *New Constitution*? Wou'dst thou have Ministers part with their best Weapons?

Marf. Surely they ought, if they wou'd prevent the bursting of their whole Machine of Government.

Pasq. As well might a loaded, hungry *Ass* be urg'd not to stop to crop a fresh Thistle in his Way, as an *English* Minister be moved to Pity, or prevent public approaching Calamity, if the Prevention suit not with the Humour of his D---r. Remember I always except the late resigning *Nobleman*, who has a Heart truly *Roman*, who took up the Burden of an Employment in hopes to serve his Country, and who laid it down lest he shou'd be deem'd an Accessary to her Fall, when he was thwarted in his Scheme for her Delivery.

Marf. I have the highest Opinion of that great Man's Virtue and Talents, but without laying *Britannia* of the oppressive Monster she goes with, there is no preserving either her Beauty or Strength. To speak without Figure, if the Debts of *England* be not soon paid off——

Pasq. They will pay off themselves. That is, the Nation will become Bankrupt. What a Havock wou'd such a Failure make all over the Continent?

Marf. Yet, *Pasquin*, the Failure can't be very distant tho' it be unseen by those most concern'd in its Consequence. Foreigners have at least *Eighty Millions of Crowns* in the *English* Funds, yet risque the big Property without seeing their Danger.

Pasq. Marry, I think the poor *Natives* risque much more that have their *Sweat* annually tax'd to discharge the Interest of the vast Capital.

Marf. Their Condition indeed is hard, who——

Pasq. Spin themselves, like the Silkworm, to deck out *Foreigners* with the Produce of their Industry. An annual Drain of *Three Millions and a half* sent out of the Kingdom in Discharge of Interest due to *Foreigners*, must necessarily soon reduce the *English* to the Condition of that laborious Reptile when it has Spun itself to a Fly.

Marf. The Discerning of that Nation cannot but see the Ruin which must attend the *Out-goings* of their Country, in *Subsidies* to foreign States, *Pensions* to private Persons abroad, *Pay* to foreign Troops, and *Interest Money* for Funds belonging to *Foreigners*; but——

Pasq. Like a declining Trader, have not the Resolution to look into the State of public Affairs, nor the Virtue to compel
a Retrenchment

a *Retrenchment* of the national Expence, till at last a general Bankruptcy becomes the Consequence of the Corruption and Degeneracy of the Age.

Marf. The *Credit* of *England* is like to be no less her Destruction than *that* which a young Merchant stretches in unwary Attempts to make a quick Fortune at the Risque of his Creditors. Like the latter, she has undertaken more than she was able to bear because she was trusted——

Pasq. And like him may be able to pay *Half a Crown in the Pound*. And let me tell you, that this will be thought no such despicable *Dividend* in the Day of general Desolation——But cry Mercy! May not the sweet Babe of *Peace*, just arrived to us in Swaddling-Clouts, avert the impending Misery?

Marf. The *Peace*, in its Nature, is such that it cannot last but just till *France* takes Breath, and puts her *Marine* in Plight to prevent Insults and secure her Trade. But was it, like the last, to be bolster'd up for thirty Years by Guarantees, Conventions, and other such Court Expedients, of what avail wou'd it be, any more than the last, towards lessening the national Debt?

Pasq. You'll never have done, I think, with that odious Topic. Prithce, e'en let them enjoy their *Debts* and all the alluring Concommitants in their Train, such as *Poverty*, *Subjection*, &c. &c. to the End of the Revelations. Let us to the subject Matter of our Conference——

Marf. The *Peace*, you mean. What wou'd you say of it?

Pasq. That, like most hasty Contracts, 'twas made in a Hurry to repent at Leisure——A *Peace* can it be call'd that leaves half the Work undone? See you not how already it spawns out two Congresses, as *Nice* and *Brussels*? Nor do I despair of seeing it as fruitful in Ministerial *Expedients*, as the Consort of that *German Prince*, who is said to have brought *three hundred W——ps* at a Birth.

Marf. There is one Consequence of great Importance visible on the general Face of the *Definitive Treaty*, which is that——

Pasq. The End of the War on the Side of *England* and her Allies, is unanswer'd in all Lights, and that in the Main, *France* has succeeded in her most sanguine Views. Was not the Maintenance of the Indivisibility of the *Austrian* Succession, or in other Words, the Support of the Heiress of *Charles VI*, in all her Rights, the End for which *England* embark'd in the Quarrel? —— *England*, did I say? Lord help the poor, *Wilful*, *Obedient* Thing, who had no End or Purpose in View but as she was directed! What was the Continent to her? —

But

But I forgot that of late Years she has had a *Connexion* with *Terra firma*—to her S——w.

Marf. And I see that you'll never forget galloping that Tongue of yours out of the Sight of your few Brains—*Wilful* and *Obedient* ! Prithee, *Pasquin*, reconcile your Epithets.

Pasq. Are there not Wives that bear the Correction of the Strap from their Yokemates, with great Resignation, who yet will continue some favourite *Ill-habit* spite of all Correction and Conviction ? That *England* has been a most obsequious *Handmaid* since her last Contract with the House of H——r, No-body will deny that considers how worne down she is in *Reputation* since the Bans were publish'd. And to what else but *Obedience* is this Decrease of *Character*, as well as of *Power* and *Wealth* owing ? She was call'd upon to quarrel with all *Europe* in their Turns, and she obey'd. And tho' no good-Wife in the Neighbourhood loved Money better, she doled away her Pence with Profusion, if her Consort but stamp'd his Foot. Has she not most *obediently* given more than her *All* in mortgaging herself for more than she is worth ? Yet for all these Tests of her *Obedience* she is as *Wilful* as the D——l in some Things. She is no more to be persuaded than a *Mule* if she once takes the Bit of *Contradiction* in her Teeth. She took it into her Head, in the last Century, to be jealous of her *old Friends*, and tho' she has had woeful Experience, ever since, of the *Quackery* of those she had chosen in their Room, yet there is no persuading her that she is in Error. We will therefore consign her over to her Fate, which seems inevitable, and journey on in our Discussion of this dark Abortion.

Marf. Ever ambiguous, or unmeaning.—

Pasq. For calling the Peace a *dark Abortion*. And pray, Mr. Critic, cou'd a *French* Taylor Fashion a Birth-day Suit better to the Size and Shape of a Court-dangler ? That it is an *Abortion* is evident from its wanting the *Nails* of *Security* and *Hair* of *Equity*, as I shall shew presently.—

Marf. Nay, nay ; if you prove the Rectitude of your last Epithet, I will forgive your first.

Pasq. Was it not huddled up by Night, No-body knows where, or why, unless it was to prevent an *Agent* from the S——ts to serve the Plenipos with a Copy of a Writ of Ejectment ?

Marf. If that was the Cause why such unusual Caution and Secrecy was observed in perfecting the *Definitive Treaty*, I cannot help wondering at the Abjectness of *France* and Undiscernment of *England*. The latter, by the Caution, seems to add Weight to the *pretention*, and the former, by the need-
less

less Condescension, proclaims her Servility to all *Europe*. *Pasq.* What cares she what the World thinks of her, if by throwing out such *Sugar-plumbs* to the *Queen* of the Ocean, the latter be lured to give up her *Allies*, and foregoe the obvious Advantages of the Superiority of her naval Force? The Colonies of *France*, East, West, and North, lay at the Mercy of *England*. And *France* herself was so coop'd up by the *British* Fleets, that she must have lost her whole foreign Trade, and lived for the future, like the Hedge-hog, on her own Grease. In such a Situation, when all her mural Crowns were on the Point of being torn from her by the additional Force of Forty-thousand *Russian* Rears, what cou'd the polish'd Dame do better than shew a Complaisance for those that deal in *Moon-shine*? The *E*—*sh* Ministers were willing to make their Court to their Countrymen by shewing an ascendant over *France*. And wou'd not you have the *French* Ministers bend, and exchange Bawbles for Jewels of Value? The *E*—*h* have a Mind to embroider the Treaty with the Spoils of the *S*—*ts*, tho' it be true that every such public Mention of that Family had better been dropt; and is it because their Passion for such finery is unwarrantable, that *France* must not indulge to it?—Let us not fall all together so unmercifully on *France*, for running up the Treaty in the *Dark*, in order to prevent a *Protest* from the Pretender, since her chusing *Night* for the Season of her Conduct, shews her conscious of her Fault, and ashamed the Sun shou'd shine upon't. And surely *Modesty* is a Virtue, in the Fair especially; and more so in *Gallia* than another, as being the first Time she gave Indication of any. A mighty Point gain'd by *E*—*d*; that *France* fell into her Views of not receiving a *Protest* from a Family who might have been forgot if so much Fuss had not been made about them—But on second Thoughts, what a narrow Field wou'd an *English* Ministry have to roam in, if the *S*—*ts* had not help'd to widen it? What Pretence for a *standing Army* in Time of Peace, of Debts, Taxes, penal Laws, Subsidies, Armados, Pensions, Secret service Money, an Army of Drones in the Power of the Treasury, and many more courtly *Items*, well known to the *Wilful* and *Obedient* themselves, whom the Consideration doth most concern? And for this Reason, I wonder the present Sages at the Helm wou'd desire the Removal of the growing *Oak* of the *S*—*ts* from the Forest of *France*. The nearer the young Chevalier is to *England* the more specious the Pretext for continuing the Expence and Chains of *Englishmen*; the fairer the Game to be play'd on their Fears and Credulity. Nor shall I be surpriz'd, if on this Plan of his being essentially useful to the *C*—*t* of

L-----n,

L——, that young Prince shou'd not stir from *Paris*, tho' his Stay shou'd appear to be involuntary on the Part of the Cabinets of both Courts.

Marf. But shou'd the C——t of *L——* insist on the specific Performance of the Treaty, in an Opinion that the Vicinity of that remaining Twig of his Family might be dangerous, and that his being two hundred Leagues farther East wou'd answer the Purpose of *public expence* as well; shou'd the Operations of the Peace be discontinued till this Article be executed by the Part of *France*, what——

Pasq. Else has the hardy *Youth* to do, but spurn at the *Grand Monarque* and thrust in his Teeth those big *Promises* with which he inveigled him away from his doubting, experienc'd Sire.

Marf. Pasquin, such Insults sit not well on the Stomach of Kings. *Louis* might give Orders for *Compulsion* shou'd his Patience be push'd.

Pasq. Which the Firmness of the young *Wanderer's* Mind seems to contemn. No, *Marforio*, fallen as *Louis* is thought to be from the radiant Height he once stood in the Opinion of *Europe*, cringing as has appear'd of late, I don't think he will be prevail'd on to recur to Force. Nor do I think the *English* Ministry will urge that Monarch to an *Act*, which wou'd not only fix an indelible Stain on his Honour, but might raise the Character of the oppress'd among a People heretofore famed for Compassion. Besides, an *English* Ministry might well take the Matter in another Light. The supposed Influence of *France* over the *S——ts* from the Obligations they might be supposed to lie under to that Crown, has not perhaps a little contributed to the late ill Success of the steady *Youth* who now puzzles the Cabinet of *Versailles*. But shou'd a restless People, from a serious Reflection of the past and present Conduct of *France* towards that friendless Family, come to view Things in a different Light; shou'd it be thought that the Perfidy and Indignity of *France* can never be forgotten, nor forgiven, and that it is likely a rooted *Enmity* will succeed to any Influence she might be supposed to have had; I say, shou'd Things take this natural Turn, it might happen that the urging *France* to come to Extremity with that determin'd *Youth*, may be attended with Consequences widely different from what seem to be conjectured at present by the ministerial Sages that grasp the *English* Tiller of State——But, *Marforio*, to judge with any Accuracy of these *Western* Statesmen, we must read them backward as Witches do Prayer. We may be sure they will act on this Occasion the very reverse of what they ought. E'en let us leave them to their vain Conceits and retire to contemplate this

boasted Peace against our next Meeting. Already do the Mat-
tin Bells of all the pious Drones of our City ring us to a Sepa-
ration. Adieu, my Friend, till next the dimmer Lamps of
Heaven succeed to that single, refulgent one which gilds the
Day.

D I A L O G U E IV.

Pasq. WElcome, my dear *Marforio*; thou art come op-
portunely to preserve these poor Brains of mine,
which are almost quite fritter'd away in examining the *Defini-
tive Treaty*, that motley Work, doubly encircled within the
awful Entrenchment of the blessed *Trinity*; see'st thou not how
piously 'tis twice invok'd before the Purport of the Contract is
touch'd upon?

Marf. It had been, *Pasquin*. A Treaty, which lays
Foundation for setting all *Europe* together by the Ears, had
need of some such high Sanction to pass it upon the Vulgar—

Pasq. The great Vulgar, you mean; for I don't see that
the lesser are thought to have any Concern in these sort of
Compacts—

Marf. Or in any other, as the World is managed, except
indulging to the unwarrantable Passions of those that are less
useful and meritorious. Is it not a melancholy Reflection my
Friend, that human Nature shou'd most be debased by those
most intitled and obliged to support its Dignity? In your
Search for *Merit*, see how few of the rich and exalted have
any Title to it. And the higher we soar to seek *Virtue*, the
fewer of her bright Traces we shall find. It was not thus a-
mong our famed Ancestors, who rose in Esteem with the
People, and in Power, but in Proportion to their Progress in
Virtue.

Pasq. That was in the *Saturnian* Age of the Republic;
but by what Means did they rise, who, in the succeeding Ages,
enslaved this Country?

Marf. By Corruption—

Pasq. Rather by Luxury, the Parent of *Corruption*. Yet
in this venal Age, when both are grown to gigantic Size, there
are, I hope, some Exceptions. There is my amiable C—f—d,
who spurns *Corruption* from his generous Soul, tho' he wears
the Appearance of *Luxury* to avoid the Imputations of Avarice
and Singularity.

Marf. Yet you saw how that favourite Noble fell—

Pasq. Fell, *Marforio*! Was not his fall, as you wrong-
fully

fully call his Resignation, glorious? But he, *C—f—d*, can never fall in the Opinion of the *Virtuous*; and it adds to the Lustre of his Character to sink in that of the *Vicious*. Wou'd *Brutus* comply with the *Corruptions* of *Julius's* Court, he might have been the first there. And has he not acquired immortal Honours by refusing to draw with *Antony* in the enslaving Scheme then on Foot?

Marf. I don't see that any other, but *enslaving Schemes*, employ the Attention of the Great. See we not, while the Olive-branch is hung out by most of the Powers of *Europe*; that a certain Prince is arming as if a declared Enemy had been at his Gates? And what else but to *enslave* is so great Treasure expended and so great Numbers secluded from the useful Mass of the *Industrious*?

Pasq. That Prince, who may be liken'd to some spiritual Orators that act not up to their Exhortations from the Pulpit. You read that Work which wears his Name.

Marf. I have read *Anti-Machiavel*——

Pasq. Which I venerate more for the royal Stamp than its Maxims—— A royal Scribe is a Prodigy. *David* set the Example, but has had but few Followers——

Marf. In Book-writing you mean——

Pasq. I do; for his *Defects* he has many, tho' in his *Perfections* but few. See how he has been copied in his youthful Pleasures; and in his A——ry more than in his Repentance—— A King an *Author* in this Age of *Luxury*! Who wou'd have thought it? He is the only, that I can Remember, since the Reformation, about which Time, that consistent, royal Scribbler, *Henry VIII.* of *England*, wrote a pompous Book in Defence of that *Church* which he afterwards most piously weaken'd by setting his own weighty Carcass on the Steeple.

Marf. *Pasquin*, I am sorry to find thy Memory so impair'd. I fear thou hast o're stretch'd its Nerves by a too close Application to the Dissection of the *Definitive Treaty*—— Coud'st thou not recollect that some of *Harry's* Successors had wrote and printed too. There is yet extant a Volume in Folio wrote by *James I.* and the *Icon Basilicon* of his Son, is in most curious Hands.

Pasq. Ah, *Marfortia*! thou has awaken'd a Sorrow which I fain wou'd have laid. What Heart so steel'd as not to relent when the Horror of that good King's Treatment makes Way into the Mind? He wrote, and was a Warrior too—and which is more, was a Christian and a staunch one.

Marf. Which is more than can be said——

Pasq. Not of his Son *James II.* who lost his Crown by being

being too strictly one. And he, this hapless Prince, was an Author too. His Memoirs of the Campaigns of his able Master in the Art of War, the great *Turenne*, shew him to be as much a Master of his Subject as of the Delicacy of Writing. And in this latter he is thought to be copied, or rather outdone by his *Son*, who is allow'd to shine and excel on Paper. As for the *Son* of this latter, we know not if he can wield the *Pen* as well, but are sure he can the *Sword*—

Marf. Alas! what Beams can shoot thro' such impervious Clouds as envelope that hapless Family, whom you injudiciously suggest to have been banish'd for a too strict Adherence to old musty Principles? Know, *Pasquin*, that *James II.* fell for being thought too closely connected with *Louis XIV.* and not for having newly taken up an old Religion. Had *James* wisely fell in with the Prejudice of his People against *France*, he needed not have been obliged to the grand Monarque for Bread.

Pasq. And see, at this Day, what a grateful Sense the Successor of *Louis le Grand* has of the repeated Obligations his Kingdom owes to the *S*——. How conspicuously does Gallick Gratitude shine in the Nineteenth Article of this most Christian Treaty, and in the Fifth of the Quadruple Alliance, confirm'd by it? Here, little *Marfi*, is such an Ascendant, such an Advantage gain'd by *England* as is worth all the Millions of *Guineas* expended in the War. What Matters how the Beam of *European Power* be poiz'd, whether the Empress Queen be so emaciated as to be of little Weight in the Scale, or whether *France* be left in Flight to kick it up when she pleases, if the Pretender nor his Offspring find no Asylum in *France*? What signifies if the Commerce of *England* and the Claims of her depredated Merchants be overlook'd by her *M*——rs, so that the *Hybland Leader* be driven to a warmer Climate against the Faith of a *K*—? What is it to the *E*—— that the Kingdom sink, since *H*—— is guarantied by the Twentieth of this fine-spun Cobweb? And pray what matters what Millions *England* doles away, since the pecuniary Claim of *H*—— on *Spain*, is by the Eighteenth Article, to be adjudget by Commissaries for that Purpose nominated and appointed? Such is the elegant, significant Phrase in modern Use for composing the Differences between claiming Powers—Well might it be said that the Workmen at *Aix* left half the Work undone, since Commissaries are the dernier Resort of Complainants. 'Tis not as yet full twenty Years since we had much such another Instance of *English*
Address

Address in flinging the hardest of the Work on those least able to go thro' it. You Remember the memorable Treaty of *Seville* in 1729, by which *Commissaries* were to determine what was never intended shou'd be adjusted. The same *Adroitness* was attempted ten Years after, when, by the never-to-be-forgotten *Convention*, the *Plenipot* had stipulated to transfigure themselves to *Commissaries* in order to be *after doing* what ought to have been the first of their Work——You simper, *Marforio*, at the Clownishness of my Phrase. You may remember it in Use in the Marches of *Anconia*; and thou knowest that Poets and Orators have the Privilege of Adoption.

Marf. And Statesmen too. See what Maxims are adopted by those of the present Age. They met to adjust the *Differences* of *Europe*, but open the Gate to many more than they have composed. They guaranty his late Acquisitions to his *Sardinian* Majesty, but give him a Neighbour, who, like Oil on a Piece of spongy Stuff, will soon spread himself all around him. Shall, or can the King of *Sardinia*, or the Empress Queen, hope to be able to oppose the future Incroachments of the Sons of *Spain* and Son-in-law of *France*? Or shall the Emperor himself be able to secure the *Equivalent* for his paternal Patrimony from the rapacious Hands of the neighbouring Branches of a House notorious for observing no Law but that of Conveniency? No, *Pasquin*, *Italy* will soon be ingross'd by the House of *Bourbon*; nor was there any other Means for preventing the approaching Monopoly, but shutting out that ambitious Family from having any Footing South of the *Alps*. My Heart bleeds for the Empress Queen. A magnanimous Princess, who deserved a better Fate, and more faithful Allies! See the Difference. *France* takes care that her Confederates come whole out of the War. The Republic of *Genoa* remains with her Possessions, and the Duke of *Modena* loses not an Inch of his Territory——

Pasq. Thanks to his Affinity with the House of *H———r*.

Marf. No, *Pasquin*; he owes his Safety to that of *Bourbon*, which dictated in the Treaty, tho' on the Eve of a Fall, scarce to be avoided, if *England* had consulted her own Strength and Interest and that of her natural Allies. *Genoa* and *Modena* have not been preserved, because *France* is faithful and grateful, Virtues she has no Acquaintance with; but because she may hereafter employ those Powers to promote her Scheme of giving the Law in *Italy*. The *Genoese*, as they abound in Seamen, are no less necessary in the projected Improvement of the naval Force of *France*, than in the opening her Way to *Lombardy*, when she shall see the Time for adding the *Milane*
nese

ness to the Domains of her Son-in-Law. And the Inhabitants of the *Modenese* will be of some Use towards the Completion of the Tyrannic Scheme—Hapless People! who see not their Danger, or if they do, are in no Capacity to avoid it! The Hour is no farther off, than till *France* recruits, that they become the Victims of *Gallick* Ambition, and share in the general Bondage of our beloved *Latium*.

See again the Influence and Address of *France*, in defeating the main Purpose of *England* in her War with *Spain*. We find no Article in the Definitive Treaty, that indemnifies the *English* Merchants for the *Depredations* committed in *America* by the *Spaniards*, anterior to the War; Depredations that had been liquidated by the memorable *Convention*. We find no Security against the future *Search* of the trading Ships of *England* in the *American* Seas. And yet these were the Things which inflamed the *English* Nation, which lured them to a voluntary Support of the *Spanish* War. These, *Pasquin*, were the Corner Stones on which that expensive, ruinous War had been raised.

Pasq. Do not all their Measures 'tend to Ruin; and woud'st thou have the *Spanish* War an Exception? You seem to forget the Genius of the People. On what else but *Error* have the *E——h* built for above half an Age? wou'd it not have been an Inversion of Nature for an *E——h* Ministry to have acted on Principles of true *Patriotism*? If *Beggary* be the beaten Road to *Slavery*, why may we not suppose that the Inattention shewn for the Trading Interest of *E——d* in the Treaty, was wilful and premeditated? I can herein, *Marforio*, perceive that thou art a mere Milk-sop in Politics. And I wonder too, that so long as thou hast resided in this Emporium of dark and deep Design, thou shou'dst be a Novice in the Wiles of Courts and Ministers.----Art thou still uninspired?

Marf. I see the Clue you wou'd have me walk by to fathom the Neglect of so important a Consideration as *Trade* is to a trading Nation; but cannot see the Wisdom of *Impoverishing* a People for the Sake of *Enslaving* them.

Pasq. Again art thou wide of the Mark. The *E——h* are a stubborn Generation, as ungovernable in *Affluence* as tame and Lamb-like in Want and Indigence. And thou know'st that that cunning Wight of *Florence*, who advised sheering the Flock close for the better preventing their being troublesome to the Shepherds, is the Compass by which modern Ministers shape their Course. You never knew a Man submit to Servitude with his Pockets full. And as for thy Crotchets about *Wisdom*, they are but mere whipt Sillibub. Didst thou ever know

know *Wisdom* and *Ambition* coupled together, unless it was for the latter like a *Termagant* married to an honest wife Man, to stop its Ears for fear of hearing the sweet Voice of Truth. If the Ambitious had consulted the Oracle of true *Wisdom*, they wou'd chuse rather to be *loved* than *fear'd*. And if Ministers had consulted the true Interest of the Prince, leaving that of the Community out of the Question as is generally the Case, they wou'd advise no Measures that tended to deprive him of the Hearts of his People.

Marf. Alas! *Pasquin*; where shall we find the Minister that consults not more the *Passions* than Interests of his Master? Have we not seen the War carried on when it shou'd have been put an End to, and ended when it shou'd have been continued? And why such a Contrast in the ministerial Conduct of those *Machiavels*, that have forgot, in the Treaty for putting an End to the War, the very principal *purposes* for which it had been begun.

Pasq. There is no disputing that the *Search* of *British* Trading-ships by the *Guarda Costa's* of *Spain*, and the *Depredations* committed on the *British* Merchants, were the sole Objects of the War with *Spain*: And so well they have been kept in View by the late Treaty-makers, who have outdone their Predecessors, in *Modesty*, a long Bow's-shot. At *Seville* in 1729, and *Madrid* in 1739, Care was taken to preserve Appearances at least, which was an Indication, if not of *Fear*. In those Days, even while the *Walloponean* Vizir steer'd, *Commissaries* were appointed to adjust material Points, tho' nothing more was intended by them, than to serve as *Sugar-sops* to feed a credulous People, and to widen the Bottom of *Employments* in the Gift of the Minister. But, as if all *Modesty* and *Decency* towards the Public had been buried with *Walpole*, who, by the bye, was not deem'd an over-courteous Minister, here is a Treaty made, a *Definitive* one too, without so much as a *Complement* made to the *English* Nation for giving away their *Rights*. Tho' the Right of *not being search'd* might have been intended to be given up by the *Convention* in 1739, yet there was some *Modesty*, some Shew of *Deference* for the Public, in the Appointment of *Commissaries* for a future Adjustment. But at present.

Marf. The *E——b* are treated, by their *Plenipos*, like Princesses who are often truck'd away for Peace, to some r—l Fool or Madman without their Consent or Privity.

Pasq. Rather like Drawers of Water and Hewers of Wood, whom their Task-masters think below all Notice and Condescension. Can we consider, in any other Light, a Nation that
are,

are, by this very *Definitive* Treaty, obliged to pass under the Yoke of Servitude to those, who, in a few Months longer Continuance of the War, might expect to wear the infamous *Badge* themselves? Had the Current of the War by Land, turn'd against *France* as it naturally wou'd, if continued, then indeed might the Yoke be imposed on her Sons, with some Propriety, as being known for Adepts in the Science of Chicanry. But for the triumphant Lords of the Ocean, the boasting Props of *Faith* and *Probity*; for the *English* to be obliged to give *Hostages* to *France* as a Pledge for their *Bonne foi*,——How fallen, how degenerated are that once vain People grown! Ah, *Marforio*! whence comes it that a generous People thus loose the very Ideas of Glory and Honour?

Marf. See'st thou not that Children are fashion'd by their Parents and Pupils by their Tutors——

Pasq. Yes Mr. *Wiseman*; I see too that Parrots are taught to speak, and Dogs to dance, and what then?

Marf. That, like these, Nations are moulded to the *Standard* of those that direct their public Affairs.

Pasq. As much as to say, that if M——rs be weak, wilful, venal, cringing and fawning, their Countrymen will become Asses, burthen-bearing Asses, and will be treated as such by their whole Neighbourhood—Zook's! I wou'd any Caperer in *France* durst have proposed *Hostages* to old *Nall*!

Marf. Ah! Name not the vile Usurper, who, to feed his Ambition, has brought the big Sin of *National Murder* on a whole People and their Descendants for ever.

Pasq. For ever, *Marfi*! a dreadful Decree!——

Marf. And irreversible, without real *Compunction* and solid *Restitution*.

Pasq. Nay, if such Conditions be annex'd to the Reversion, I despair——

Marf. If such Conditions!——Is it a Doubt then that *Justice* is one of the bright Attributes of the *Diety*? 'Tis none; it can be no doubt that public as well as private *Crimes* are only to be purged off by *Sorrow* and *Atonement*.

Pasq. Prithee, my *Casulist*; what Species of *Purgation*, think you, may be adequate to the Sin of Evil-Treaty-making? And when your Hand is in, pray inform me who are most culpable, the *Plenipos* or their ministerial *Directors*: And what Share of the *Guilt* may be divided to the two *Hostages* if any two *Ignobles* shou'd be found so weak as not only to hazard their own *Liberty* and even *Life*, but to sully for ever the *Fame* and *Honour* of their Country? I shall measure the Punishment to be inflicted by thy Answer.

Marf.

Marf. As in Murder, by the Laws of E—d, so in Ministerial Affairs, by that of Reason, there ought to be no *Accessaries*—

Pasq. 'Sdeath, *Marf!* Thou do'st not think that the *Hostages* are equally criminal?

Marf. Have they not the Staff of *Free-will* to hold up against all illegal Commands? Is not the Path to Security, in a limited Monarchy, short and sure? *Resignation* is in every Man's Power where no Law Warrants Coercion.

Pasq. But *Disinterestedness* is not in every Man's Nature—

Marf. 'Tis true, *Pasquin*, or we had seen many more *Resignations* when C—f—d quitted a Company he began to be ashamed of. Happy, that he foresaw the approaching *Infamy* of his Country and avoided sharing in it, since he was not able to prevent it!

Pasq. He wou'd have died in the last Dike of his Country's Honour, if he had been in the M—y, before he wou'd have a Hand in stitching the inglorious Badge of *Subjection* on fair *Britannia's* Arm. 'Sdeath! if *Hostages* must be given to *France*, why were they not to be of the Subjects of the cherish'd E—e that had benefited by the War and Benefits by Peace, while poor *England* looses by both? Gad, *Marfi*, the Blood in my marbly Veins boils so at these Betrayers of *patrial Glory*, that I don't think any Punishment adequate to their Guilt, but Banishment, to—

Marf. *Siberia*, among the *Russian*, ministerial Bears.

Pasq. No, no; to the Castle of H—r; there to be obliged, like Coal-meeters in *England*, to shovel up daily the mouldy Heaps of B—h Crowns and *Guineas* that have been annually unloaded there.

Marf. And, like *Midas*, starve amidst the rich Heaps that had been rais'd by their own Degeneracy.

Pasq. Rather let them hoe *Turnips* in the adjacent Plains, feed on them and never die, that, like him who stole the celestial Fire, their Labour may never cease and their Punishment may be eternal.—*Hostages* and all—

Pasq. Ay, even to the lowest ministerial Rag. I wou'd make a general Sweep, turn the Current of *Justice* into the *Augean* Stable, and clear away all the Filth that had been gathering there for half an Age.

Marf. It wou'd require more than *Herculean* Virtue to cleanse a People almost quite eat up with the Leprosy of Corruption.

Pasq. There is one short, direct Road to the Cure, and but one—

Marf. Which you may be sure the E—h won't journey

ney in because it is most eligible; 'twou'd be acting out of Character for them to walk by the Clues of *Wisdom* and *Justice*.—See we not *E——h Incorrigibility* in every Article of the Treaty under our Consideration?—By the IX, “*Cape-Breton* shall be restored with all the Artillery and Ammunition which was found therein on the Day that it was surrendered.”—But *Fort Saint George* is to be restored in such Condition as it may happen to have been on the 31 of *October* last. Why were not the Stipulations reciprocal? Why was not the latter to be restored in the Condition it had been taken in as well as the former?

Pasq. Because then *E——h Subjection* and French Influence wou'd not have appear'd so conspicuously to the World. The *E——h M——y* have a peculiar knack in *Sinking* the Character of their Country in all their Negotiations with Foreigners. If an *Eel* is to be held, they are sure to lay hold of the Tail——

Marf. And dole away their *Millions* to cover their Nation with Shame. Behold how the *Bourbons* lord it in this Treaty. Nothing has been left undone that can secure their Allies or aggrandize themselves. A Son of *Spain* is wedged in between the Allies of *England* in *Lombardy* so as to sever them from each other, and for ever from being able to bear up against the united Power of the House of *France*. A respectable Silence is imposed on *E——d* with Regard to her *Motives* for a Rupture with the *Dons*; the *Insecurity* of her *American Trade* left as open as before the War, and her Claim for *Depredations* anterior to it, buried in eternal Oblivion. And what is the pompous *Equivalent* for so big a Sacrifice?

Pasq. The *Friendship* of *Spain*——

Marf. Which *England* can never hope to recover, any more than the *Spanish Trade*, while she with-holds *Gibraltar* and *Minorca* from them. No, *Pasquin*, the Equivalent is only the Enjoyment of the *Assiento* for Four instead of Fourteen Years, which the Exercise of that Contract had been suspended occasionally by *Spain* herself. These are the People that plume themselves on having had a steady Eye to the Trade of their Country in the Treaty before us.

Pasq. Did ever Fish-woman cry stinking Fish? Or was ever so grovelling a *Zany* on the M——l Stage, as wou'd not trumpet his own Fame when he was sure none dare gainsay him?—For all you say, Mr. Inquisitor, I say the Treaty is a special Treaty, answering every ministerial Purpose that cou'd be devised who by those wou'd preserve their own ministerial Power and Credit at the Expence of their Country. It might have been, in Days of Yore, a Maxim with Ministers

not

not to loose Sight of the *Interests* of their Country in their foreign Negotiations; but in this more enlighten'd Age, the ministerial *Consideration* is more circumscribed. It centers solely in *Self*. For Instance, if a Peace be necessary for the *Minister*, he will be sure to cook it up to the Goust of *Some-body*, (whom it may not be proper for a Translator to Name) but, *Marforio*, you are always to understand that that nameless *Some-body*, is *No-body* unless he has Passions, and particular Attachments, and Views. *Nam vitiis nemo sine nascitur*——
K——gs in Purple are no less *Men* than those in Buskins; and *Julius* may have had his *Prejudices* as well as *Roscius*.

Marf. And may have less Strength to conquer them.

Pasq. Pshaw! What Modern wou'd be at the Pains of a Conquest that did not suit with his Interest? If the general Scheme be to secure the Obedience of the *E——b* by impoverishing them, and to aggrandize *H——r*, at the Expence of *E——d*, was ever a *War*, in this copious View, better managed than the last, or a *Peace* more favorably cook'd up than the present? Was not the *War* by *Sea* generally neglected, except by particular Adventurers, or towards the latter End by the Ministry's being dragg'd into some small Degree of Exertion of the formidable Naval Power of *England*; and was it not conducted so by *Land* as to render it successless, yet to increase its Burden? If, in the same Light, we scrutinize the *Peace* shan't we find it answering all the Ends of the deep Schemes of sycophant *M——rs*? Is there a Shred of the wide pacific Parchment securing the *Commerce* of *E——d*? Are not those Conquests given from her, which alone cou'd make her any Amends for her unequal Expence during the *War*? *Cape-Breton* made her Mistress of the lucrative Trade of *Fish* and *Fur*; yet it is tamely yielded up, while *Gibraltar*, not worth the Expence of keeping, is tenaciously kept to the Ruin of the *Spanish* Trade. Yet conspicuously as it appears that the trading Interest of *E——d* has been overlook'd in the Treaty, 'tis no less certain that her *Safety* and *Honour* were equally abandoned by the *E——b* Compounders of the pacific Dose. To instance no other, the Article of the *Hostages* is an indelible Wound to the Honour of *Britain*; and if the *Force* put on the Empress Queen to acquiesce with the hard Conditions of the *Peace*, be taken into the Account of *National Honour*, it will be found to increase the *Stain* no less than it will contribute to render the *Safety* of the Island more precarious and uncertain.

The XXI. Article of the Treaty stipulates a fresh Guaranty of the *Pragmatic Sanction*, which is a tacit Avowal of the Necessity of preserving the Indivisibility of the *Austrian* Suc-

cession as necessary for securing the Liberties, not only of the Empire but of all Europe. Yet this Security is barter'd away for Moon-shine. *Silesia* and *Glatz* are given away to the secret E——y of the House of *Austria*, and guarantied to a Prince, no less intent to stay the Curvets of the white Steed in his Neighbourhood, than the Flight of the black Spread-Eagle.

Marf. Alas, *Pasquin*! It has been long observ'd, that the Steed you mention, is not more jealous of the imperial Bird, than of the King of Beasts.

Pasq. Poor E——h *Lion*! how Toothless is he become, tho' he affects to growl and roar as formerly!—generous Creature! How alter'd from what he was in the Days of *Anne*, the last of the *Stuart* race who fill'd the Throne of her Ancestors! 'twas complain'd she had abandon'd her Allies in 1712; but let them be dumb for ever who compare the Treaty of *Aix* with that of *Utrecht*. There, we shall find *Charles VI.* possess'd of all the hereditary Dominions of his House, enrich'd by the ample Addition of the *Spanish* Possessions in *Italy* and the *Netherlands*. But how is the pleasing Scene of Safety and of Power chang'd by the present Treaty? The House of *Austria* is little more than the Shadow of what it was before the War. 'Tis true the Shell stands but the richest of its Furniture are moved away. *Silesia*, the fairest of her Provinces, is torn from the Empress Queen, she scarce has a Footing in *Italy*, and in the *Netherlands* she bears an empty Name without Power or Safety. The Provinces are to be restored to her, but so impoverish'd as not to be able to defray the Expence of their keeping, and so dismantled as scarce to be in Condition to stay a royal Huntsman in Chase of his Game.

Marf. Yet this is that natural Ally whom *England* had boasted she wou'd bear up against the Ambition of *France*.

Pasq. The Epithet *natural*, better fits the Grand Turk, because he has some naval Power, which alone can give any Colour for the Expression. But in Truth, if *England* knew and pursued her natural Interest, she wou'd have all the World for Friends, but wou'd stand in no Need of Allies. The House of *Austria*, without Sea-ports, a Ship of War, or scarce a Cock-boat, to be the natural Ally of an insular Nation a thousand Miles from it! What Incongruity; what Frenzy! But this is one of those unmeaning Phrases coin'd in the R——n Mint, to lure the E——h Beetles into a Liking for Land Wars.

Marf. Of which they are like never to have a Dearth while they have so intimate a Connexion with the Continent as at present.

Pasq.

Pasq. Ay, ay; dear Turnip Land! There, *Marforio*! there indeed the Word *Natural* may be applicable. *Austria* may be deem'd the *natural Ally* of *H——r*, but never can of *England* with any Propriety.

Marf. Nor of *H——r* neither, while 'tis the Business of the *White Nag* to extend his Pasture Ground, and of the *Eagle* to obstruct any Enlargement of it. Besides, the House of *Austria* can bear no Equal in the Empire, and *H——r*, being bolster'd up by *E——d*, has assum'd Airs which the Court of *Vienna* may have Thought little suitable to the Degree of Vassallage.

Pasq. Take back, *Marforio*, thy Diminutive. The Epithet might suit with the Condition of most of the other States of the Empire. But for *H——r*, more rich in *Bullion* than all *Germany*, abounding in Treasure beyond any State in Europe, not to be above the Degree of Vassallage!—Recant, *Marf.*, or——

Marf. I shall be put under the *Ban* of the Empire, as little regarded at present as the *Bulls* of the *Vatican*, which heretofore bellow'd so loudly as to strike Terror to the utmost Limits of the Globe. But now the hornless Animals may bellow out their Lungs before they are heard or heeded. So it fares as to the *Ban* of the Empire. While the Person filling the Imperial Throne had the Power to enforce the Execution of the Ordinances of the *Diet* which he *influenc'd*, then indeed the being put under the *Ban* of the Empire bore a significant Meaning. But at present——

Pasq. Care is taken that the *Head* shall have no coercive Power over the *Members*. I understand thee, my Friend; and can perceive how the late *War* and present *Peace* may have answer'd the double Purpose of certain modern Statesmen. The unequal Burden of the *War* urged on apace the *impoverishing* Scheme, as the readiest to tame a *stubborn People*; and the hard Conditions of the *Peace*, reduce the Imperial Diadem to the little Importance of an *Indian Crown* of Feathers.

Marf. To such, the Princes of the Empire think it their Interest to reduce the Imperial Crown.

Pasq. And to such indeed it is reduced by the present *Peace*. But how wisely consistent was *England* in expending her *Millions*, in depressing her *Trade*, and draining her *Vitals* in Support of the House of *Austria*, while it seem'd to have been the *View* and *Interest* of *H——r* to humble that haughty Race?—Luckless Land, doom'd to be a Province to the pitifullest State in the Empire!

Marf. More luckless, in giving Birth to unnatural *Sons* that treat

treat her as swagging, travelling Spend-thrifts do an *Hostess* to whom they never intend to return.

Pasq. Tho' such a Procedure, in the Traveller, wou'd be unjust and dishonourable, yet wou'd it fall far short of an unnatural *Englishman* that shou'd aid towards the *Indigence* and *Dishonour* of his Country and Ruin of Posterity, for Lucre, Smiles or Titles. Ah, how gloomy the Scene which presents itself to those few *Englishmen* that can discern, and have any *Bowels* for their bleeding Country!

Marf. This *Peace* opens such a wide Gap to Confusions; lays such a Foundation for War, as must inevitably involve *England* in all its Calamities.

Pasq. So perhaps it might have been intended by the *Winders* up of the pacific Bottom. A durable Peace, might produce such another *Opposition* as has turn'd *Walpole's* Chariot. People too might grumble that no *Reduction* of the public Debt was grafted on a long Peace. Can it be wonder'd then that the Peace is as ricketty and flimsy as we find it? What matters it to a Ministry whether a Peace be sound and likely to subsist, so it answer *ministerial* Purposes? Need I tell thee, *Marforio*, that Ministers distinguish with great Subtily between *Purposes Ministerial* and *Purposes National*. The latter may look to themselves, or go to the D——l for any thing an E——h M——r cares a Button, so the former thrive. If he can keep his *Post*, have the Ear of *Some-body*, and be permitted to *sheer* the Flock, the *Nation* and *Posterity*, he thinks as little of as of Religion and the Gospel.

Marf. Ah! how delicately adapted is the present Peace to those *Purposes* which you call *Ministerial*!

Pasq. Are not all the *Purposes* of the Cabinet purely *Ministerial* that tend not to the Good of the Community? And I defy the most flattering C——t Sycophant to point out any one *Purpose* of the Community answer'd by the Definitive Treaty. The Objects of the *Spanish* War have been quite out of the View of the Negotiators. The *British* Navigation in the *American* Seas is as insecure, and the depredated *Merchants* as discontented as before the War. The only useful Conquest made by the *English* (*Cape Breton*) is to be restored. Another *Bourbon* is introduced into *Italy*, to render the House of *Savoy* tributary, and drive that of *Austria* quite out of it. The richest of her Hereditary Provinces is guaranty'd to the Empress Queen's most dangerous Neighbour, without obtaining any solemn *Renunciations* from the other Claimants to the *Austrian* Succession. The *Austrian* Provinces in the Low-Countries are to be restored in so ruinous a Condition, that *Lewis XV.* may

may pay the *Dutch* a Visit in his Night-cap and Slippers, whenever he is in humour to munch *Cheese* and quaff *Geneva*.

Marf. And that, we may be sure, will be as early as the Establishment of a *Marine* to protect the Trade of his Subjects, and the Discharge of his Debts.

Pasq. How different is the present System of Politics in *England*! Here, *Debts* are contracted with a View, *ab origine*, never to be discharg'd, as they are thought to be Pledges for Duty and Fidelity. And this Maxim, as unwise and unnatural as it is, seems to be woven into the Constitution. But in *France*, and all other Countries in *Europe*, except *England*, the Necessity of contracting Debts is yielded to with Reluctance, and the Cause no sooner ceases, than all Means are used for removing the Effect. But, as if it had been premeditatedly design'd that the *English* Milch-Cow, shou'd be milk'd dry, she is intangled in such a Net of different and jarring *Guaranties* by this Treaty, that it is impracticable for her ever to desingage herself with any Safety and without an immense Expence. If the Courts of *Vienna* and *Berlin* fall out, as 'tis ten to one but they do before the Close of the next Year, whom shall the Court of *L——n* abet? Again, shou'd *Russia* and *Prussia* fall out, as who believes not that they will, whom shall *E——d* assist? She is engag'd to both; but thou know'st there is no serving two Masters.

Marf. I don't see that she can do better than jog on in the old Track—

Pasq. Feed one, underhand, with *Money*, and help the other openly with Troops or Ships. You may remember the Conduct of the *E——h* Cabinet with Regard to *Augustus* and *Stanislaus* in the last *Polish* Election—

Marf. Or that of the late Emperor, *Charles* of *Bavaria*, to whom a certain *Vote* was given while *England* was almost bled to death in order to shut him out from the imperial Throne.

Pasq. Or, the permitting a *Spanish* Army to be wasted to *Italy*, by one Treaty, while another subsisted for opposing such a Transportation with all the naval Power of *Britain*.— But there the cherish'd *E——e* stood in the Way. *Mallebois* might have been a troublesome Guest— Ah! poor *England*! how art thou made to play at Leap-frog just as *H——r* pleases!

Marf. Yet what fair Opportunity was *England* furnish'd with, by this Treaty, to wind herself into a safe and durable Peace?

Pasq. A much better she had, if she wou'd have continued the War but for another Campaign or two. In that short Compass, she might have stript *France* of all her Colonies in *America*, South and North; and with the Force already sent

to

to the *East-Indies*; every *French Settlement* there must have fallen to *England*. Every Branch of the *French* foreign Commerce might be so obstructed, by the naval Force of *Britain*, that the Natives of all the South of *France* must inevitably be famish'd unless *Corn* shou'd be carried from the Northern Provinces for their Relief; and in that Case, the *French Armies* in the *Netherlands* must be ill supply'd. With the scanty Stock of *Corn* then in *France*, either the Army or People must want; and as the Weight wou'd naturally fall on the latter, there must necessarily have been an Insurrection in the Bowels of the Kingdom, which wou'd answer every *National Purpose* an *English Ministry* cou'd propose.

Mars. But the *Purpose Ministerial* may have been better answer'd by the charitable Relief of *Corn* allow'd to be export'd for *France* just when her Sons were on the Verge of Despair. Yet even then, when the *Cock* lay panting under the *Lions Paw*, were the *E——b M——y* suing for Peace as humble Suppliants. In such a Hurry were they to put an End to a War which promised the most glorious and alluring Prospects, that they overlook'd all the Purposes for which it had been enter'd upon. Had they proceeded deliberately and taken a larger Compass in the Negotiation, all the peccant Humours in Europe might have sweeten'd and corrected. The growing Tumour in the *North* might have been removed by gentle Fomentation, the Claimants to the *Austrian Succession* might have been soften'd into healing Renunciations, the Causes for future Contests with *Spain*, which are untouch'd by this Treaty, might have been lessen'd, if not quite removed.

Pussy. All wou'd have been better if *Ministers* were better; that is, if the *Purposes Ministerial* had not combatted the *Purposes National*, which must ever go to the Wall while *Englishmen* act corruptly and unjustly, and servilely bend to a fatal Connexion with the *Continent*——But e'en let the Blind and Wilful trudge on in the *Mirry Path* they are so fond of, since nor *Justice* nor *heroick Virtue*, can wear off the mistaken *Rancour* of their Hearts. Hereafter we shall see dire *Necessity*, in all its various, hideous Shapes, wearing off the Edge of *Prejudice*, unsealing the Eye of *Reason*, and working that Cure, which they are so averse to, yet so much stand in Need of. Yes, *Mars*, *Necessity*, ever the Consequence of Corruption as Famine is of the Plague, will one Day drive the *E——b* to *Bliss* and *Duty*, as yon' rising Sun drives us to a Separation——Farewell.

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P I N I S.

